Trade and Industry

2 December 1977 Every Friday 35p

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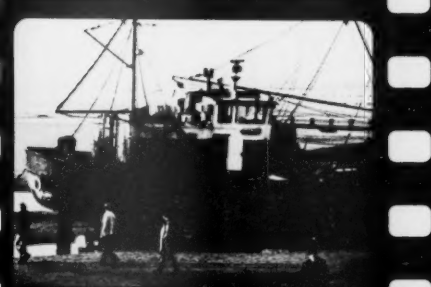

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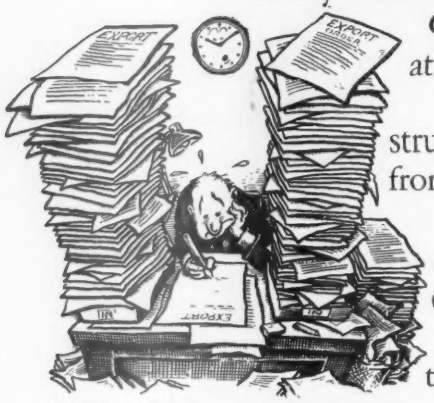

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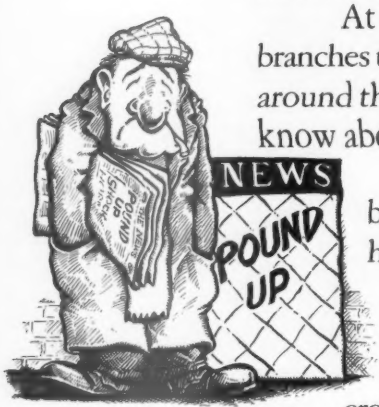

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Trade and Industry

2 December 1977

News from the Departments of Industry·Trade·Prices & Consumer Protection

Efforts to improve the safety of fishing vessels received impetus yesterday by the publication of a report by the recently established Fishing Industry Safety Group (page 426).

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Trade and Industry this week

HOME

Competition policy report due in the spring

Competition policy will be reviewed by an inter-departmental group to see how it can best contribute to industrial performance. A preliminary study will be prepared for ministers by the spring.

Roy Hattersley, Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection, announcing this on 28 November in answer to a parliamentary question from Mike Thomas (Newcastle upon Tyne, East) said that competition policy and the industrial strategy shared the basic objective of making British industry more efficient.

The government wanted to ensure that competition policy made its full contribution and there was concern at the increasing concentration of ownership in British industry and the disappointing results of many mergers.

The group would study various aspects of monopolies and mergers and of existing competition legislation in the UK and overseas, particularly in relation to the development of EEC rules of competition and the increasingly competitive international scene.

It would first consider possible changes in the mergers and monopoly policy and its application. A preliminary assessment of further aspects of competition policy would include restrictive trade practices and the possible fusion of the Monopolies and Mergers Commission and the Price Commission.

Legislation on company directors being prepared

Legislation to implement the proposals in the white paper, *The Conduct of Company Directors*, was being prepared, Edmund Dell, Secretary of State for Trade, said in a written answer in the Commons on 29 November. But because of the pressure on the parliamentary timetable he could not say whether it would be possible to introduce the necessary provisions during the present session.

Mr Dell was replying to a question from Ian Wrigglesworth (Teesside, Thornaby) who asked whether the secretary of state would make a further statement about the legislative proposals which he was preparing in connection with insider dealing, loans by companies to their directors and directors' private interests.

Mr Dell said that the government had published on 28 November a white paper, *The Conduct of Company Directors*, which set out the government's proposals for certain amendments to the law as it affected the conduct of company directors.

The white paper proposed that there should be a statement in statute law of the existing common law duties and responsibilities of directors and it was intended that directors would be required to take into account the interests of employees as well as shareholders.

It was also proposed that provisions be introduced to strengthen the existing rules relating to loans made by companies to their directors and (with some exceptions) to extend these to the immediate families of directors and to companies in which directors or their families had a financial interest. Certain breaches of these rules would be made a criminal offence, and where loans were permitted the law would require greater disclosure of them.

Stricter rules would be introduced relating to significant transactions by companies in which their directors had a personal financial interest, including a requirement for greater disclosure of the details of such transactions.

The white paper also set out the government's proposals to make insider dealing a criminal offence with separate provisions covering transactions on the Stock Exchange and transactions where the parties were in a direct, contractual relationship. It also proposed some strengthening of the civil remedies available.

See 'Insider dealing to be banned', page 420.

Ministers meet TUC steel committee

Eric Varley, Secretary of State for Industry, accompanied by Gerald Kaufman, Minister of State for Industry, and Leslie Huckfield, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Industry, met the TUC steel committee on 29 November to discuss the problems facing the British Steel Corporation.

The meeting was one of the continuing series of consultations involving ministers, the corporation and the trade unions aimed at finding agreed solutions. There will be further talks between BSC and the steel committee with a view to reaching an agreed position.

During the discussions, Mr Varley emphasised the government's determination to see the long-term viability of the corporation secured, and discussed with the committee steps to be taken to effect a recovery.

Members of the committee explained the concerns of the unions, including the need for adequate time to complete consultation within the unions. They stressed the need to avoid action which was socially damaging, left the steel industry unable to respond to an upturn in demand or allowed it to lose competitiveness through lack of essential investment.

Govan shipyards get Polish bulk carrier order

British shipbuilders announced on Wednesday that an order for one of the seven bulk carriers for Poland originally allocated for Swan Hunter, Tyneside, has been placed with Govan shipyards on the Clyde, where the required production assurances have already been given.

It was announced last week that Swan Hunter was to build all seven of the 16 500 tonne bulk carriers, accounting for £50 million of the £115 million order from Poland.

Two more of the seven bulk carrier orders will be re-allocated to other northern shipyards when the assurances are available. The remaining four vessels will be allocated after the necessary calculations and consultations have been completed.

British Shipbuilders said that it had been the earnest hope and intention that all of these ships should go to Swan Hunter and deeply regreted that this was not possible.

Investment climate better than ever: Williams

More overseas companies are recognising the favourable opportunities of investing in the UK, said Alan Williams, Minister of State for Industry, in London on 28 November.

Addressing the British Institute of Management conference, Mr Williams said that the climate for investment was better than it had ever been before. The encouraging evidence in a recent survey into the investment intentions of German companies operating in the UK showed that many of them were intending to expand their operations in the UK.

The favourable opportunities the UK had to offer was further demonstrated by the success of Scandinavian-owned firms in this country who had strongly recommended other Scandinavian companies to invest in the UK.

With the prospect of a long-term growth arising from the North Sea oil facilities and resources, foreign businessmen recognised the opportunities that were going to exist in Britain certainly for several decades to come. In the context of the benefits which the UK

would derive it was appropriate to consider the industrial strategy programme, which had made good progress with a realistic and flexible approach to the different problems of the sectors of industry.

The government had already implemented some of the many sector working party recommendations but was concerned that those recommendations for action by management and unions should be implemented at company and plant level. This would involve a massive communications effort on the part of everyone who was concerned to reverse the decline in the competitiveness of manufacturing industry.

Mr Williams welcomed the imaginative work which the British Institute of Management is engaged in to get the message of the strategy to industrial management at plant level.

Capital grants for consumer advice centres

Capital grants for new consumer advice centres between now and 31 March next year will be made by the government, John Fraser, Minister of State for Prices and Consumer Protection, announced on 29 November.

Mr Fraser said that his department was prepared to finance the setting-up costs of a limited number of new consumer advice centres, provided these costs were incurred by 31 March 1978. A total of up to £300,000 was being made available for this purpose. These government grants were in addition to those already being paid this year towards the running costs of existing consumer advice centres. The department had already announced that it would grant-aid the running costs of all consumer advice centres for a further year, from 1 April 1978 to 31 March 1979.

Local authorities and other organisations, Mr Fraser said, were invited to submit applications for these new capital grants. A circular giving full details of this scheme would be sent to local authorities very shortly.

Guide to contracts

To help people understand that when they agree to buy something they are making a legal contract, a leaflet was published on Tuesday by the Office of Fair Trading.

Called *Stop and Think*, it explains buyers' and sellers' obligations when they have made a contract. It makes clear that a contract need not be a written agreement such as an order form, but could be a simple verbal agreement.

Stop and Think is available free from consumer advice centres, citizens' advice bureaux, trading standards or consumer protection departments of local authorities and the Office of Fair Trading.

OVERSEAS

Chinese trade minister: first visit for five years

Li Chiang, Foreign Trade Minister for the People's Republic of China, arrived in the UK on Monday – the first visit by a senior Chinese trade minister for nearly five years.

Edmund Dell and Li Chiang

He is here for trade talks with government ministers and top industrialists.

Li Chiang, accompanied by Mr Yuan Pao-hua, senior vice chairman of the State Planning Commission, and senior officials of the Ministry of Foreign Trade and the State Planning Commission, had talks with Edmund Dell, Secretary of State for Trade, on 29 November.

They have also called on the Prime Minister, Dr David Owen, Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, Eric Varley, Secretary of State for Industry, and Tony Benn, Secretary of State for Energy. The programme includes visits to Rolls-Royce Ltd and the British Rail Technical Centre at Derby, to a colliery in Yorkshire, the BSC steel works at Redcar and the ICI works on Teesside and a trip on the high speed train to Bristol.

Exporting to western Europe

The European market sets high standards. If we want to stay in business in a continental market, we must set ourselves these high standards and the best way to do this is to compete in the market. This was the point made by Sir Frederick Catherwood, chairman of the British Overseas Trade Board, at the opening of the conference, 'Exporting to Western Europe 1977', held at the Wembley Conference Centre on 29 November.

Sir Frederick emphasised the importance of UK trade with western Europe, saying that it was the biggest industrial market in the world and its historic rate of expansion was higher than America's. The pay-off for a successful British product was now far greater than it had ever been.

Over 400 management and shop-floor representatives attended the conference, which was organised by the European Trade Committee – the area advisory group which advises the BOTB on trade with western Europe. Sir Derek Ezra, BOTB member and chairman of the ETC, chaired the conference.

Speaking at the conference, Secretary of State for Trade, Edmund Dell, emphasised the key role of the shop floor in exporting, especially in improving non-price competitiveness by delivering on time.

Mr Dell spelled out three reasons for putting greater emphasis on western Europe: firstly, that of its greater reliability as a market open to UK products; secondly, that the market represented a challenge well within the the UK's capacity to manage; and thirdly, that giving this priority to western Europe and particularly the community was to realise the full potential strength of the European community as an economic alliance, as a bargaining unit in international economic and trade negotiations. Mr Dell rejected notions that too much effort was concentrated on a market which took about half the UK's visible exports.

EUROPE

CAP 'preposterous and absurd' says Hattersley

Substantial change is needed in the way the community determines agricultural prices, Roy Hattersley, Secretary of State, Department of Prices and Consumer Protection, said on 29 November.

Mr Hattersley, speaking at a London association of agricultural representatives lunch at the Farmers' Club, London, said that ordinary consumers were both bewildered and offended by what they saw of the European common agricultural policy. The butter mountain and the wine lake were no more than the visible symptoms of the policy's inadequacy.

It was preposterous that within the EEC the price of commodities in almost permanent surplus should be so increased that farmers were encouraged to produce even more, he said. It was absurd that prices should be fixed which kept the least efficient farmer in business, and that the surplus production which was exported, destroyed or hidden away should almost invariably be produced at figures well above the average cost.

Mr Hattersley said that what Europe needed was a different attitude towards its prices policy. Of course the market had to a degree to be managed, but it ought not to be managed in such a way that consumers were financing production which they did not want, and therefore paying prices which were unnecessarily and artificially high.

Home news

Insider dealing to be banned: white paper on company directors' conduct

Government plans to strengthen the law on the conduct of company directors and to prohibit insider dealing are described in a white paper [1] published on 29 November. It says that weaknesses in the law have been exposed by recent investigations into the affairs of certain companies. The government therefore intends to introduce legislation to provide a statement in statute law of the duties and responsibilities of directors; require them to take into account the interests of employees as well as shareholders; tighten the law on loans to directors; introduce new rules affecting company transactions in which a director has a private interest; and make insider dealing a criminal offence.

Duties of directors

Under the common law, directors are under a duty to act in the interests of the company and are required to exercise care and skill in the discharge of these functions. These duties are not defined in statute. The white paper says that the government now considers that a general statement of the duties of directors should be included in statute law.

Interests of employees

The government also considers that employees should be given legal recognition by company law. So in the statutory definition of their duties, directors will be required to take into account the interests of employees as well as shareholders. There will be a further requirement for companies' annual reports and accounts to be circulated to employees. Additionally, directors will be permitted to make extra provision for employees in the event of a closure.

Loans to directors

Section 190 of the 1948 Companies Act prohibits (with some exceptions) loans by companies to their directors. The white paper points out that, despite this prohibition, there have been cases where directors have sought to circumvent the law and obtain large sums of money from their companies. Inspectors in recent company investigations which have revealed these abuses have recommended that the law should be strengthened.

The government proposes to widen the scope of section 190 to prohibit, subject to certain exceptions, loans made to a directors' family or to companies in which a director has an interest. These extended rules will apply in the case of public companies and private companies which belong to a group which also contains a public company. Breach of these provisions will be a criminal offence.

There are at present a number of exceptions to the general prohibition on loans. These include money advanced to meet necessary expenses incurred on the company's behalf and loans made in the course of the business of a company whose ordinary business includes the lending of money. The white paper says they should continue but that where loans are made under these exceptions they should be kept within specified limits and should be disclosed in the company's accounts.

Loans made under the first of these exceptions will be subject to a limit of £10,000, and under the second to £50,000, on normal commercial terms. Additionally the second exception will permit a loan on preferential terms to be made for house purchase provided it is advanced under a house purchase scheme which is available also to employees. To avoid disrupting legitimate inter-company lending, loans made between companies that are members of the same group will not be subject to these prohibitions or restrictions but the law will require that they are disclosed in the accounts.

Conflicts of interest

The government believes there should be specific statutory provisions to cover transactions, other than loans, where a director's duty to his company may conflict with his private interests. It is intended therefore that the approval of the company in a general meeting will be required for directors' service contracts for periods longer than five years, and significant contracts for the transfer of assets between a company and a director, his family, or another company in which a director has an interest. Moreover other transactions involving a possible conflict of interests will have to be disclosed in the company's accounts.

In addition the government intends to make it easier for minority shareholders to take action more readily through a petition to the courts in cases where their interests are damaged.

Non-executive directors

The government's recognition of the valuable role non-executive directors play in the affairs of a company is expressed in the white paper. In particular, the government has noted the north American practice of appointing audit committees of mainly non-executive directors and it welcomes the consideration now being given to them in the United Kingdom.

Insider dealing

The white paper sets out provisions against insider trading – dealing in securities by a person who has confidential information affecting their value which is derived from an inside position with the company whose shares are the subject of the transaction. Dealing in this manner, the government believes, not only gives directors and other insiders an unfair advantage, but undermines public confidence in their integrity and frequently places them in breach of their obligations to the company.

The government has concluded that insider dealing in certain circumstances and by certain people should be a criminal offence. However, the white paper stresses at the same time that it will not be possible to 'produce a perfect answer to the problem which will enable the immediate identification and conviction of every wrong-doer, but the government intends to establish as soon as possible that insider dealing is an offence and to create penalties which will be sufficient in most cases to deter those who are tempted to use inside information for their own personal gain.'

When a case under the proposed new law comes to court, the prosecution will have to prove, in cases where the transaction took place on the Stock Exchange, that the alleged insider conducted the transaction despite his knowledge that the information on which is was based was not generally available and that it was price-sensitive. The provision will apply primarily to insiders such as directors, employees, substantial shareholders and people having a professional or business relationship with the company but will also cover those who knowingly received inside information from such people.

Legitimate trading by directors or employees who hold their own company's shares will be safe-guarded. For it will not be an offence for anyone to deal if he can show that he was not intending to make a profit from the use of such inside information. Where a transaction involves direct, contractual relationship between the parties, which does not happen in Stock Exchange dealings, it will be an offence for an insider not to reveal his connection with the company whose shares are being dealt in.

[1] 'The Conduct of Company Directors', Cmnd 7037, HMSO, price 35p net.

First conference on small firms in inner cities

Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster Haro Lever opened a conference at Lambe Town Hall on 25 November, the first of series on 'Small Firms in the Inner Citie

He stressed that the small businessman would be needed in the society of tomorrow at least as much as, if not more than, in the society of yesterday. He was needed more and more urgently to help deal with the pressing problem of the inner cities.

Mr Lever pointed out that the inner city areas presented government and local authorities in particular with a direct challenge. There was a mismatch. On the one hand, there were idle resources and unemployed people; while on the other, there was an unsatisfied appetite for local services of all kinds, from artwork to plumbing.

Instead of the central areas of great towns being full of life and liveliness, they were looking increasingly dejected and neglected. They must be brought back to life with new and modernised housing, shops, showrooms; with craftsmen, workshops and small factories. The small businessman must be encouraged to return. Only a vigorous and self-confident small business sector could provide this extra push of effort required in the inner cities.

There was nothing new in the government's concern to help small businesses, Mr Lever said. 'The Prime Minister asked me to co-ordinate with Bob Cryer the work that government departments have been doing for some time in order to emphasise the growing importance and urgency of assisting small firms'.

It had become clear that there were three principal areas where government could help. The first was in taxation of all kinds which had a special impact upon small businesses; secondly, in the field of provision of adequate finance it had to be ensured that conditions were favourable for both equity and loan capital. Third, was the effect on small businesses of the administrative burden imposed by modern legislation and conditions. 'We cannot make employees in small firms into second class citizens, but it has to be recognised that larger businesses do have greater resources and can departmentalise to meet these new and often complicated responsibilities.'

A start had already been made; measures contained in Mr Healey's statement in October were worth £120 million a year to the small businessman. And in the inner cities, an increase in the urban programme of £100 million a year had been announced. Additionally, a bill was now proposed to give elected local authorities more powers to assist industry, and there was increased flexibility in the granting of industrial development certificates.

'Small and medium sized businesses have a central role in solving the crucial problem of unemployment which has beset us in the last few years. Far from being on the way out, like a new race of dinosaurs with small brain and big body, unable to adapt to a changing environment, our small businesses are a great potential fund of the initiative, flexibility, effort and enterprise on which our future depends', Mr Lever concluded.

Guy Barnett, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State concerned with inner city policy at the Department of the Environment, chaired the conference. Bob Cryer, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State with special responsibility for small firms at the Department of Industry, gave an outline of the assistance which the department can give to small firms.

The aim of the conference was to provide an opportunity for an exchange of views, ideas and information between directors of small firms, representatives of the banks, property companies and other private sector organisations, local authorities and relevant government agencies.

On 21 September, the Prime Minister announced that he had asked Harold Lever, helped by Mr Cryer, to make a special study of the problems facing small firms and to see what more can be done to help them.

Bob Cryer opens Corby exhibition

Bob Cryer, Parliamentary Under-Secretary, Department of Industry, who has special responsibilities for small firms, opened the Corby Development Corporation Jubilee Enterprise exhibition and visited two small firms, McCahill Engineering Ltd and Control Components Ltd, on Wednesday 23 November.

The exhibition, organised jointly by the corporation and the East Midlands Small Firms Information Centre, was held in the Festival Hall, Civic Centre, Corby on 23 and 24 November. It was part of the Jubilee Enterprise two-day event which included the announcement of the winner of Corby Development Corporation's competition for the most promising product or process submitted by small firms, a symposium and a series of evening seminars.

Bob Cryer (right) talking to Norman Lott, East Midlands regional director, Department of Industry, and Ray Parr, manager, on the Small Firms Information Centre stand.

New act has implications for business insurance: Fraser

The need for all businesses to assess the adequacy of their insurance cover before 1 February 1978 was stressed on 25 November by John Fraser, Minister of State for Prices and Consumer Protection.

Speaking at the opening session of the European study conference on the Unfair Contract Terms Act[1] in London, Mr Fraser said, that the short title of the new act did little to convey the significance of the measure, or rather package of measures, which were intended to control all unfair and unreasonable exclusion or limitation of liability incurred in the course of business for breach of contract or for negligence after 1 February next year. It was not only important that businessmen should understand the new act and how it fits in with existing legislation in the same field. It was also important that they realised that many of them would need to look to their insurance cover before the act came into effect.

In respect of negligence, the act contained new controls. It provided that except where restriction of liability was permitted by international convention, it should no longer be possible to exclude or limit liability arising in the course of business for negligence resulting in death or personal injury. Apart from the case of consumer guarantees, attempts to exclude or limit liability for negligence resulting in loss or damage other than death or personal injury were still permitted, but were subject to a test of reasonableness.

The controls in the act relating to contractual obligations were simpler and would apply to contracts with consumers and standard form contracts between businessmen. In all cases the control would be the test of reasonableness. The test would be applied to two sorts of contract term. First there was the sort whose purpose was to evade liability for failure to carry out clear obligations under the contract.

The test of reasonableness would also be applied to terms allowing the contract to be performed in a way that did not meet the reasonable expectations of the customer. This second type of provision differed from the first in that it was expressed not as excluding or restricting liability for the breach of subsisting obligations but as preventing obligations from arising or providing that they were to arise only in restricted or qualified form.

The section which prevented people using indemnity clauses to get round the controls in the act has a dual purpose, said Mr Fraser. It was not, for example, possible to avoid liability for negligence by making it a term of the contract that the customer must indemnify the other party against any liability that party might incur to the customer because of his negligence. In all such cases the indemnity term would be treated as if it were a term excluding or limiting the liability. The consumer would be protected against this by the

[1] *Trade and Industry*, 12 August and 4 November 1977.

application of the reasonableness test.

Avoidance of liability for breach of certain obligations implied by statute law into contracts for the sale and hire-purchase of goods had for some time been strictly controlled. The act broke new ground, Mr Fraser added, in extending protection into the area of goods supplied other than by sale or hire-purchase. Protection was also provided in respect of the very similar obligations relating to fitness for purpose, which were implied by the common law into contracts of hire of goods, contracts of work and materials, and contracts of exchange.

German investment in UK to expand

A great majority of 128 German owned companies which already manufacture in the UK intend to expand in the near future and a number of others plan to start production within the next few years. This conclusion emerges from a survey into the investment intentions of German companies operating in this country published on 24 November by the German Chamber of Industry and Commerce in London.

Commenting on the survey, Alan Williams, Minister of State for Industry, said: 'It provides further evidence of the very favourable opportunities Britain has to offer foreign companies considering overseas expansion and the growing interest of foreign industrialists in setting up in this country. The climate for investment in Britain today is better than it has been for many years and I hope that this survey will encourage other German firms to look seriously at the possibility of manufacturing in this country.'

The main factor behind the German companies' decisions appears to be the desire to take advantage of the United Kingdom's low production costs but other factors mentioned include the ready availability of labour and the growth potential of the British market. The survey also shows that the great majority of German companies operating here have very few industrial relations problems and hardly ever experience a strike.

The German chamber's survey follows hard on the heels of a similar survey into the experiences of Scandinavian manufacturing subsidiaries in this country published earlier this month by the Nordic Bank (*Trade and Industry*, 11 November). The great majority of the firms covered in this survey also considered the UK to be an excellent place to invest and strongly recommended other Scandinavian companies to set up in this country.

Neptune acquire Glenfield and Kennedy

Suppliers of water pollution control equipment, the Neptune International Corporation, of Atlanta, Georgia, signed an agreement to acquire Glenfield and Kennedy, the Kilmarnock, Scotland, based valve manufacturers on 25 November.

The deal was signed in Glasgow by Michael A. Edwards, Neptune's director of European operations, and Donald Draper, of Kidsons, who has been acting as receiver of the 125-year-old company since it was placed in receivership several months ago.

Announcing the news, Bruce Millan, Secretary of State for Scotland, said that an interest relief grant of around £1 million had been made available to the company under section 7 of the Industry Act and added that Neptune was also putting in a 'substantial amount' of money. Mr Millan said that at one stage it had looked as though the company might go completely out of existence, but 'we were determined right from the start that we would do everything possible to keep Glenfield in Kilmarnock. As much effort has been put into this rescue operation as any I can remember.'

Motorway service areas to be investigated

Secretary of State for Transport, William Rodgers, and Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection, Roy Hattersley, announced the appointment of a committee to inquire into all aspects of motorway service areas on 22 November.

The terms of reference are: 'to consider and report on how far the present facilities and services available at motorway service areas meet the convenience of motorway users having particular regard to price, quality, variety and effective competition; and on what further provision should be made for the convenience of travellers, bearing in mind road safety and any other relevant matters.'

Chairman of the committee is Peter Prior chairman of H. P. Bulmer Ltd, and the other members are R. W. Davies, deputy director of finance of the British Aluminium Company; George Hill, chairman of Crest Hotels; Miss Margaret Jones, consumer correspondent of the *Daily Mirror*; Chief Superintendent L. R. Jones, head of traffic division, West Mercia Constabulary; and Hugh Marshall, a lorry driver and branch secretary of the 10/56 branch of the Transport and General Workers Union which represents 2000 lorry drivers in the Hull area.

Secretary of State for Scotland, Bruce Millan, has agreed that the committee should include within its purview the three service areas in Scotland. The committee has been asked to report within six months.

Anyone who wishes to make representations should write in the first instance to the Joint Secretaries, Services Areas Inquiry, c/o Department of Transport, 2 Marsham Street, London SWIP 3EB.

Official appointment

Post Office Board: Eric Varley, Secretary of State for Industry, announced on 25 November the appointment of Sir George Macfarlane to the Post Office Board. It is the intention that Sir George will be especially concerned with advising the board on engineering policy issues, including research and development. He will spend, on average, two days a week on Post Office business.

The 90-second lifesaver

It takes only 90 seconds to evacuate everybody – 100 passengers, six cabin attendants and three flight crew – of a Concorde airliner using life-saving equipment seen here being manufactured by RFD-GQ, Godalming, Surrey. Every Concorde carries six inflatable escape slides – three of which convert to liferafts – and one 36-man liferaft. All are equipped with emergency rations. In a recent evacuation exercise, using only three of the six slides and the aircraft's emergency lighting, the complete aircraft was evacuated in 86 seconds. The test was timed from the first warning, with all passengers and crew strapped in their seats, to the last person off the slide.

Advance factory units for Pocklington . . .

Work is expected to start immediately on the construction of an advance factory of about 500 m² for the Development Commission at Pocklington, North Wolds, Humberside. The factory is capable of division into two smaller units of 250 m² each.

A contract worth about £82,000 has been awarded to Quibell and Son (Hull) Ltd. The premises should be ready for occupation during May next year.

Inquiries regarding leasing should be addressed to the Regional Director, Department of Industry, Yorkshire and Humberside Region, Priestley House, Park Row, Leeds, tel. Leeds 443171.

. . . and terrace units occupied at Knowsley

SPR Chemicals Ltd has occupied premises of about 500 m² built by the English Industrial Estates Corporation on the Department of Industry's Knowsley Industrial Estate, Merseyside.

SPR Chemicals of Bradford is a newly formed company which specialises in the removal of enamel from steel plates used for cookers, central heating boilers and other domestic appliances; it also removes paints from automobile body paints jigs, dishwasher racks, land tools, work jigs, and automobile trim parts. The company expects to employ about 20 people when the premises are fully operational.

Developments in Wales

WDA, the Welsh Development Agency is investing £330,000 in a Swansea engineering company which is claiming a world lead for Britain with a new high-speed nut-making machine.

The Swansea Jig and Tool Co has negotiated an exclusive agreement with the Kean Manufacturing Corporation, of Dearborn, Michigan for marketing the machine in north America and is already supplying equipment worth £1 million.

Discussions are taking place about marketing agreements in western Europe and the Far East and in two years' time the company is expecting sales to be running at £2 million a year.

All the machines will be made at the company's Pontardawe factory, where the workforce of skilled men and semi-skilled operatives is expected ro rise from 55 to 90 over the next 18 months.

The machine, developed by George Harrow, chairman of Swansea Jig and Tool, is capable of turning out high-precision nuts at a rate of up to 650 a minute.

Twelve small factories at Newtown for people who want to start their own businesses or to move to Wales are to be built by the Development Board for Rural Wales. The factories will be 500 square feet, already fitted with power, light and toilet facilities. They will be offered on attractive terms, possibly including up to two years free of rent and will be ready for production, with all their services, in spring next year.

Price Commission to investigate Ever Ready

The Price Commission notified the Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection on 24 November that it intends to investigate certain price increases of the Ever Ready Co (Great Britain) Ltd.

The company prenotified to the commission on 31 October that it intended to increase prices of dry (primary) batteries. The commission considered the proposed increases and decided that they should be the subject of an investigation under section 4 of the Price Commission Act 1977. The effect of this decision to investigate is that the price increases proposed may not be implemented during the period of the investigation, which must be completed within three months. However, the commission is able to allow interim price increases, and is obliged to do so to the extent to which the safeguard provisions operate.

Anyone who wishes to make any representations to the Price Commission in connection with this investigation should write to the Secretary, Price Commission, Neville House, Page Street, London SW1P 4LS.

New schemes for using offshore gas

New methods for the offshore use of gas to avoid wasteful flaring are being investigated by the government. The methods were described by Dr J. Dickson Mabon, Minister of State for Energy, during an address to the Institution of Gas Engineers in London on 22 November.

Dr Mabon explained that preliminary assessments showed that many of the chemical conversion possibilities, such as ammonia, carbon black, ethylene, were not practicable because of the problems and costs of operating process plant in the North Sea environment. Only three options showed any real promise. The first was offshore conversion to methanol. The second was power generation in which the associated gas was used to run generating plant offshore and the resulting direct current taken to shore by cable. The third was liquefaction where the gas would be liquefied offshore and then landed in special LNG tankers.

Production of methanol was the least attractive possibility since it still required some large process plant offshore. The product was also downgraded in energy terms relative to methane and it had only a restricted market as a chemical.

Offshore power generation and liquefaction were the most promising ideas, said Dr Mabon; but neither was more than marginally attractive, so the Department of Energy had commissioned two feasibility studies which would examine the technical and economic aspects of each method. The studies were well under-way but it was still too early to form any conclusive judgement. He thought it was possible that both options would be useful, if limited, additions to Britain's armoury for achieving the maximum possible utilisation of associated gas.

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Investment of £16.5 m for new Rover engines

Leyland Cars is investing £15.5 million in manufacturing facilities and £1 million on a factory extension to produce the brand new engines which power the recently announced Rover 2300 and 2600 saloons.

Manufacture of these new overhead camshaft in-line 6-cylinder engines is centred at two plants in Cardiff (Rover) and Coventry (Triumph). The Cardiff plant at Pengam produces major engine components including the cylinder head, crankshaft and camshaft carrier. Machining is carried out on new automatic transfer lines with the exception of the crankshaft which uses a manual transfer line. A £1 million factory extension providing 7432 m² houses these operations.

In Coventry the Canley powertrain plant is responsible for both machining of components and assembly of the engines. A new facility has been installed for engine build which includes sophisticated equipment for rapid and easy setting of the overhead camshaft cylinder head assembly. These components, in line with most, are common to both 2300 and 2600 units. Design of the engines is such that only the crankshaft, pistons and carburettors differ between units. This provides significant manufacturing benefits particularly in machining costs. A new £2 million transfer line for cylinder block work is currently on order from KTM. When commissioned, this will raise capacity to the planned output level of 1600 engines per week.

Report on silica published

Silica is the subject of a report[1] published on 23 November by the Department of Industry. It is the latest in a series of concise reports on economic minerals of the UK, produced by the Institute of Geological Sciences.

The report describes the geological occurrence, extraction processing and specifications and uses of silica sand and silica rock, and reviews the present structure of the industry. The latest production and trade data are presented together with diagrams showing the location of the major silica producing operations.

Silica sands are used principally for foundry moulding purposes and in glass-making; about 3.3 million and 2.2 million tonnes respectively, representing about 90 per cent of total output, were produced for these purposes in 1975. However, the mineral has a large number of other industrial applications.

Silica sands are produced from unconsolidated and weakly consolidated deposits ranging from carboniferous to recent age, but production is mainly confined to a few deposits of superior quality in Norfolk, Surrey, Cheshire, Staffordshire, Bedfordshire and central Scotland.

Silica rock is produced from hard, carboniferous quartzitic sandstones and quartzites in south Wales and Durham, and is used in the manufacture of silica refractories, principally silica bricks. A marked decline in demand for silica as a refractory raw material brought about a sharp fall in production of silica rock from 625 000 tonnes in 1949 to 42 000 tonnes in 1975.

[1] 'Silica: Mineral Resources Consultative Committee', ISBN 0 11 510842 4, is available from HMSO price £1.75.

Metrication of excise duties on hydrocarbon oil, petrol substitutes, power alcohol and gas

A Treasury order proposing metrication of the excise duties on hydrocarbon oil, petrol substitutes and gas for use as road fuel was laid before parliament on 22 November. Subject to approval, the changes will come into force on 1 January next year.

The litre will replace the gallon as the unit by which excise duty is charged, and existing rates of duty per gallon will be replaced by the following rates per litre.

pence

	Existing rate per gallon	New rate per litre
Unrebated oil		
Light oil (mainly petrol), unless delivered to approved persons for use as furnace fuel	30	6.6
Heavy oil for use as road fuel (including Derv)	35	7.7
Rebated oil		
Light oil used as furnace fuel by approved persons	2½	0.55
Domestic kerosene	1	0.22
Other heavy oil (including aviation turbine fuel) not for use as road fuel	2½	0.55
Petrol substitutes and power alcohol	30	6.6
Gas		
Gas used as road fuel	15	3.3

The new rates reproduce the existing level of taxation with no more than a minute element of rounding up.

The majority of oil companies adopted metric measurement for their wholesale transactions some time ago, and the order aligns the duty structure with their practice.

The order 1977(SI 1977 1866) has effect only at the points at which the question of payment of excise duty arises. It does not, for example, apply at the garage forecourt where the motorist will continue to be able to buy petrol by the gallon. The following consequential order and regulations have also been laid:

The Excise Duties (Gas as Road Fuel) (Amendment) Order 1977 (SI 1977 1867)
The Hydrocarbon Oil (Amendment) Regulations 1977 (SI 1977 1868)
The Gas (Road Fuel) (Amendment) Regulations 1977 (SI 1977 1869)

Together these provide that in the legislation dealing with the excise duties on hydrocarbon oil, petrol substitutes, power methylated spirits and gas for use as road fuel: the litre will replace the gallon; 15°C will replace 60° Fahrenheit; 1013.25 millibars will replace one atmosphere; and kilogram will replace pound.

Introduction of these units has been designed to alter the existing position as little as possible.

Patents endorsed 'licences of right'

Under section 35 of the Patents Act 1949 the following patents were endorsed 'licences of right' on the date specified.

14 November 1977

1186310 Standard Telephones and Cables Ltd
A magnetic recording device
1224477 Standard Telephones and Cables Ltd
Improvements in or relating to electro-magnetic non-percussive printing and/or display apparatus
1340007 Standard Telephones and Cables Ltd
Gas discharge display matrix
1327838 Agfa-Gevaert Aktiengesellschaft
Process and apparatus for continuous production of suspensions
1337996 Agfa-Gevaert Aktiengesellschaft
Improvements in and relating to electro-static copying apparatus
1364238 Haldor Fredrik Axel Topsoe
Process for the hydrodesulphurisation of heavy hydrocarbon oils
1373619 Low and Bonar Textiles Ltd
Improvements in carpet underlays
1374278 Georges Brousse
A method of producing advertising or other printed matter on periodicals
1377952 Geoffrey Lionel Guy Bradshaw
Electric switch
1410477 International Standard Electric Corporation
Circuit arrangement for the speed control of single phase series commutator motors

18 November 1977

1118351 Mansei Kogyo Kabushiki Kaisha
Liquefied gas fuelled lighter
1184810 Mansei Kogyo Kabushiki Kaisha
Improvements in liquefied gas-fuelled pocket type smoker's lighters
1197851 Mansei Kogyo Kabushiki Kaisha
Smoker's lighers of the kind incorporating piezoelectric elements as high voltage generating means
1234412 Mansei Kogyo Kabushiki Kaisha
Smoker's lighters
1235829 Mansei Kogyo Kabushiki Kaisha
Smoker's lighters
1359426 Mansei Kogyo Kabushiki Kaisha
Improvements in or relating to cigarette lighters
1431214 Mansei Kogyo Kabushiki Kaisha
Smoker's lighter
1451534 Mansei Kogyo Kabushiki Kaisha
Piezoelectric generating device
1454647 Mansei Kogyo Kabushiki Kaisha
Cigarette lighter of electric spark ignition
1456455 Mansei Kogyo Kabushiki Kaisha
Smoker's lighter with battery ignition
1458030 Mansei Kogyo Kabushiki Kaisha
Reproducing device for recorded video and/or audio signals
1472933 Mansei Kogyo Kabushiki Kaisha
Optical disc read-out system
1443208 Societe d'Etude et de Production d'Appareils de Levage
Improvements in or relating to a device for avoiding a collision between a mobile object and a fixed or mobile obstacle
1457111 Societe d'Etude et de Production d'Appareils de Levage
Improvements in or relating to a device for achieving voltage unbalance in the windings of an asynchronous motor
1434942 Westinghouse Brake and Signal Co Ltd
Semiconductor elements
1435107 Westinghouse Brake and Signal Co Ltd
Reinforcing a semiconductor element
1296522 Leslie Connock Jesty
Means for signal coding and decoding
1341471 Fiat France SA
A fastening device for fastening a first element to a second element, in relation to which it is movable
1356470 Seperic
Improvements in or relating to ortho-disubstituted arylguanidines, process for their preparation and applications thereof
1401496 Edward William Richter
Device for cutting out various shaped biscuits

Any person who claims that the patentee at the time of endorsement of any of the above patents was precluded by a contract in which the claimant is interested from granting licences under the patents may apply for cancellation of the endorsement on patents form no. 45 within two months after the date of endorsement. E. Armitage, Comptroller

London seminar on productivity

Productivity is the subject of a one-day seminar organised by the London Chamber of Commerce and Industry for 17 January in London next year.

The central feature of the day will be three tv films, two of which deal with shop-floor problems at Chloride Ltd. Two members of the company will be present to answer questions.

Further information may be obtained from Anita Russell, London Chamber of Commerce, 69 Cannon Street, London EC4M 5AB, tel. 01-248 4444 ext. 124.

Clearance of merger proposals

Roy Hattersley, Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection, has decided on the information at present before him, not to refer the following proposed mergers to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission under the provisions of the Fair Trading Act 1973.

Black Diamonds Pensions Ltd and The British Investment Trust Ltd.

Security Pacific Finance Ltd and United Kingdom Guarantee Corporation Ltd.

Britrailpen Ltd and Edinburgh and Dundee Investment Co Ltd.

Ross Foods Ltd of the wet fish distribution and the frozen food production and distribution activities of Associated Fisheries Ltd.

Laying aside of merger reference

Since the proposed acquisition by Derritron Ltd of British Electronic Controls Ltd has now been abandoned, the Department of Prices and Consumer Protection has given consent to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission to lay aside the reference which was made on 27 October 1977.

Bread prices order amendment

Following the Price Commission's announcement not to investigate the bread price increases proposed by the major bakers (see *Trade and Industry*, 25 November, page 383) the statutory maximum bread prices have been amended with effect from Monday 28 November to permit increases of up to 2p per large loaf in Great Britain and ½p per loaf in Northern Ireland.

Government sales

8 December – Miscellaneous

Location
Golden Lion Hotel, King Street, Stirling

Auctioneers
Dixon and Wallace (Dept L), Bank Buildings, Graham Square, Glasgow G31 1AW (041-554 2447)

The stores are lying at various depots in Scotland and include vehicles, tools, engineering stores, clothing and textiles, furniture and other items.

14 December – Miscellaneous

Location
Embassy Suite, Balkerne Hill, Colchester, Essex

Auctioneers
Fenn Wright Garrod Turner (Dept L), 146 High Street, Colchester (0206 46161)

Stores lying in south-east England and East Anglia, with furniture, clothing, machine and hand tools, many vehicles and other goods.

Catalogues which give details of the lots, conditions of sale, viewing times, etc, are available from the auctioneers from two weeks before and up to the day of the sale, price 40p, postage 15p (postal orders only).

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ENCIRCLE TI 697 ON PAGE 479 FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

Wembley Auction Sales 1977

6 December 1977

View Days:	Day preceding and morning of sale
Location:	Department of the Environment Property Service Agency Supplies Stores India Pavilion Exhibition Grounds Wembley, Middx. Tel. 01-903 2508
Description of Goods:	Office and Miscellaneous Furniture etc.
Auctioneers:	Messrs. Hollingsworths Westcombe House 56/58 Whitcomb Street Leicester Square London WC2H 7DR Tel. 01-893 1875

Potential buyers are advised to refer to the official catalogue available direct from the auctioneers price 10p

ENCIRCLE TI 705 ON PAGE 479 FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

Realistic safety for fishing vessels

Since the introduction of the Fishing Vessels (Safety Provisions) Rules 1975, inshore fishermen have wasted little time in telling Department of Trade ministers in their customary forthright style what they thought about the way the rules were working. The Fishing Industry Safety Group was set up in July of this year to advise ministers upon the implementation of the rules. Yesterday (1 December) the following interim report, reviewing the work of the group, was presented to parliament by Stanley Clinton Davis, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Companies, Aviation and Shipping. Mr Clinton Davis endorsed the group's recommendation that fishing vessels should now be put forward for survey as required by the rules.

The 1975 rules broke new ground in extending to fishing vessels a statutory requirement for regular safety surveys and certification, without which such vessels should not fish for profit. The rules not only gave effect to the recommendations in the 1969 Holland-Martin report on trawler safety, which was primarily concerned with larger distant water trawlers, but in addition embraced the smaller inshore vessels down to 12 metres in length. They also incorporated the 1965 regulations governing life-saving and fire-fighting appliances, previously applied to fishing vessels, but not enforced by statutory survey. The rules require fishing vessels to be initially surveyed at different times over the six-year period 1975 to 1981 according to their size, type and date of build, commencing with the older vessels, the first of which came under survey with effect from October 1975.

Representatives of the fishing industry were closely involved with the department in the development of the rules. A consultative document in November 1971, which proposed a framework for the regulations, was followed by the establishment of two working groups. These groups, which dealt with vessels over 24.4 m and 12 to 24.4 m in length respectively, met regularly in the period April 1972 to November 1974 and jointly formulated the content of the 1975 rules. The department subsequently arranged a series of meetings and discussions at the main fishing ports in the United Kingdom in order to assist the industry's understanding of the proposed rules and to achieve a smooth transition to the new safety regime.

In October 1975, the older and relatively small, mainly inshore, fishing vessels became due for survey under the rules. With each phase-in date, the rules progressively took in more of the inshore fleet and, in the light of these developments, the department received a corresponding increase in representations from the industry. Reservations were expressed about the extent and adequacy of earlier consultations in formulating the rules; the need for flexibility in applying the rules to existing inshore vessels was strongly emphasised; and attention was drawn to the combination of survey fees and expenditure on modifications to meet statutory safety standards which in some instances were proving to be a burden. These anxieties were given further impetus through the House of Commons Trade and Industry Sub-Committee of the Expenditure Committee in its study of the fishing industry which examined the minister and officials regarding criticisms of the safety rules which the committee had received.

Mr Clinton Davis was able to inform the sub-committee that he had met representatives of the inshore fleet to discuss their difficulties. Consistent with his earlier undertaking, to review the working of the rules after they had been effectively in force for about 12 months, he had decided to establish a Fishing Industry Safety Group, comprising industry representatives and officials, which would meet regularly to consider and advise on current problems and to examine any future developments concerning the implementation of the rules. In view of the essential need to secure a fully representative group, the department was at pains to ensure that all the interests of the inshore fleet were reflected in the membership. The British Fishing Federation will, at their request, be kept informed of the work of the group and will also be fully consulted on any matters affecting their interests which are mainly those of the deep sea fleet.

The group's agreed terms of reference are to advise Department of Trade ministers on the implementation of the department's arrangements for the safety surveys of fishing vessels. It has met three times, on 15 July in London, 27 September in Edinburgh and on 8 November again in London. Its early work has been directed towards identifying and resolving the immediate problems about which the industry had expressed concern.

Stability

One of the main difficulties which arose on the stability of existing vessels concerned the ability of some foreign built vessels, especially beam trawlers, to satisfy the criteria in the rules. Many of the beam trawlers were designed and built in Holland and subsequent consultations with the Dutch authorities on their stability data and related research, proved extremely helpful in reaching both a safe solution and one acceptable to the industry. The group has endorsed a proposal to modify arrangements for surveying beam trawlers whereby an initial survey will be confined to a stability check, using a simple roll-period test, and an examination of the safety equipment. The initial survey fee, £50, will be set against the full fee payable when the vessel phases-in for completion of the survey, together with all other vessels of corresponding length and year of build. This arrangement replaces the previous requirement for all beam trawlers to be fully surveyed as from 1 July 1977. It has also been agreed that no vessel will be debarred from fishing as a result of an initial failure fully to satisfy a roll period test. The department will co-operate with the owner in an endeavour to achieve an acceptable level of stability but, in the meantime, the vessel will be allowed to fish subject to any essential requirements in the interests of safety.

Appeals

The group has also considered the important question of appeals against local surveyors' decisions on the application of particular rules. There is no reason to believe that, generally, the majority of such differences cannot be resolved reasonably in discussion between owners and surveyors at the ports. Furthermore, it is always open to an owner to take the matter up at a senior level within the department, up to the level of the Surveyor General, or even to the minister. A further avenue of appeal could be to an independent Court of Survey but this process is a lengthy and costly procedure, very rarely used, even by the merchant fleet, and not entirely appropriate. The group agreed that some refinement of the appeal procedures would be advantageous, and additionally, it has been decided that in the event of failure to agree at local port level, an owner will be entitled to a meeting at the vessel with a senior surveyor of the department and the owner's own professional adviser. It was also decided that the working of this and the other appeal arrangements, which of course continue, would be kept under review.

Exemptions

The industry has consistently urged upon the department the crucial need to apply the rules in a practicable and flexible manner in so far as they relate to existing vessels. The department has recognised this from the outset but further scope for exemptions has been considered by the group in the light of experience. Although the new arrangements for phasing-in existing beam trawlers may require an amendment to the rules, changes in the rules as opposed to exemptions are not in general favoured primarily because of the implication for the newer and larger vessels. Accordingly it has been decided to extend to the older and smaller vessels in appropriate cases an exemption from the 1975 rule requirements for liferafts, lifebuoys and line throwing apparatus. Where vessels lack suitable stowage space the standards embodied in the 1965 rules and hitherto applying to such vessels, will be allowed. This practical problem was brought to the department

notice by the group.

The subject and detail of exemptions is complex and technical. The group has, therefore, completed the preparation of a guidance handbook which sets out in a relatively simplified format the wide range of exemptions normally granted to existing fishing vessels. This handbook, which reflects the practical experience of the fishing vessel surveyors in implementing the rules to date, also takes account of the wider exemptions granted for life-saving appliances and the views of the group. It was considered and drafted by a sub-group under the chairmanship of the Surveyor General. The handbook will be issued free of charge to the industry and should prove to be an invaluable aid in understanding and complying with the rules. Owners can obtain copies of the handbook from Fishing Vessel Survey Offices and will in any case receive one prior to survey.

Delays in coming forward for survey

A major area of concern to the department has been that the number of vessels applying for survey by the due date is significantly below expectations. Between October 1975 and October 1977, of 390 vessels expected to phase-in, 137 had failed to come forward by the end of that period. At October 1977, 64 surveys had been completed and 189 were being processed. A contributory factor was perhaps the expectation of relaxations arising from the work of the group. In an attempt to encourage a more positive approach it has been agreed that any vessel coming forward for survey will be permitted a 12-month period of grace from its specified survey date in order to comply with the surveyor's requirements. During this period the owner would be issued with an 'interim certificate' which would free him of the obligation to have on board, with effect from the specified survey date, a United Kingdom Fishing Vessel Certificate. It was also agreed that such vessels will benefit from any relaxations under consideration by the group.

Radio requirements

The industry representatives were critical of requirements of the Merchant Shipping (Radio) (Fishing Vessels) Rules 1974. A number of the main issues have already been discussed. The group noted that the department had already exempted inshore vessels from the requirement to fit medium frequency radio equipment where VHF equipment was carried and used within areas having good VHF coverage. Another principal objection was to watchkeeping receivers which were subject to considerable interference and were also extremely noisy in use. The department acknowledged this problem and agreed that radio surveyors would visit vessels to study the equipment in the operational mode. The industry's dissatisfaction with the equipment would also be discussed with the manufacturers.

Subsequent studies by the department have included operational, installation, technical and manufacturing aspects. Preliminary indications suggest that there are prospects for improving the performance of existing equipment and that newer designs, currently under test, should eliminate most of the problems. The department has not yet completed its study and operational trials are being arranged. The group will consider this matter in the light of the department's conclusions with a view to advising owners on the optimum use of their equipment.

It has been agreed that the radio rules will be further examined by the group. As an initial step a technical sub-group has been formed to carry out an urgent study of interference problems and to report at the next meeting.

Fees

A major source of concern to the industry has been the level of fees charged by the department for safety surveys. In discussions in the group, and elsewhere, it has been pointed out that the industry was unable to pass on additional costs to the consumer; that restrictions on fishing since the introduction of the survey scheme and general cost problems had further aggravated the industry's difficulties and that the older, mainly inshore vessels which found it most difficult to operate profitably were the first and hardest hit. The department has fully considered these points against the background of general government policy to recover the full costs of surveys. In particular, and in consultation with the fisheries departments, the department has taken account of the initial costs of applying a new scheme of fishing vessel surveys especially to owners likely to be involved in carrying out improvements to existing vessels. Exceptionally, therefore, the department has agreed that the charge for the initial survey of existing vessels should be at the renewal survey rate. This rate will be subject to review against cost in the normal way but this decision has the immediate effect of reducing the initial survey fee by on average 42½ per cent. The department will put in hand the refunding of fees to those fishermen who had already paid a fee at the original rate of the initial survey.

Instalment plan

In order to assist fishermen further to overcome the problem of meeting immediately the full costs of the survey the department has introduced a scheme for payment of fees by instalments. The scheme enables owners to pay for the first survey, the radio fee, and the periodical inspection fee in four equal annual amounts. There will be an administration charge, including interest, of 11 per cent of the total of these combined fees. It is a once and for all charge and will be included in the annual instalments.

Departmental studies

In parallel with the work of the group the department undertook internal studies having a bearing on the rules:

Fishing vessels casualties. The House of Commons Trade and Industry Sub-Committee of the Expenditure Committee was critical of the lack of accurate and readily available statistics, particularly those relating to the inshore fleet. Accordingly a review of the basic casualty data has been undertaken, in consultation with the fisheries departments. The results of this exercises have provided fuller information back to 1962 and the recording procedures have been improved.

Paperwork. The department had noted, from the work returns made by fishing vessels surveyors, that the number of hours required to complete the paperwork associated with the fishing vessel surveys was more than expected. This is being reviewed with the aim of significantly reducing paperwork, together with a corresponding reduction in the total time involved.

Conclusions

The Fishing Industry Safety Group has dealt urgently with what it considered was the main immediate problems arising from the implementation of the Fishing Vessels (Safety Provisions) Rules 1975. New approaches have been developed on beam trawlers, appeals, exemption procedures and the 12 months period of grace for completion of the work required as a result of surveys; and an important easement in fees has been made in favour of the owners of existing vessels. The group had not felt inhibited in proposing changes by the fact that vessels which offered themselves for survey earlier may have been differently treated, recognising that in the first few years of a new scheme advantage must be taken of experience gained.

It is thought that many owners have delayed coming forward because of earlier differences of view between the inshore industry and the department, and because of the wish to await the outcome of the group's deliberations. While some members of the group have reservations about the introduction of statutory surveys for inshore vessels, and one insisted on behalf of the Fleetwood fishermen that this be recorded in the report, it is the general view of the group that these matters have been satisfactorily dealt with and that the vessels which have failed to apply for survey by the due date or have not completed survey should now do so.

The situation with regard to vessels coming forward for survey will be among the matters to be discussed at the next meeting of the group. The group will also continue to provide a close link between the industry and the departments concerned. In addition, middle and distant water interests may wish to become more actively involved when the newer and larger vessels come forward.

The Fishing Industry Safety Group members

J. N. Archer (chairman), Department of Trade
D. G. Aitchison, Scottish Fishermen's Federation
A. R. Caird, Scottish Fishermen's Federation (Firth of Forth)
Peter Murray, Scottish Fishermen's Federation (Scottish White Fish Producers' Association)
P. L. M. Stewart, Scottish Fishermen's Federation (Clyde)
G. Buchan, Scottish Fishermen's Federation
G. Gordon Jackson, Scottish Fishermen's Federation (Mallaig and NW Fishermen's Association)
Alexander Noble, Fishing Boat Builder's Association
H. Campbell, Aberdeen Fishing Vessel Owner's Association
Capt G. A. Stellman, Fisheries Organization Society
A. Clapham, Grimsby Seiners' Association
D. Pearce, Grimsby Seiners' Association.
L. J. Cunnington, South-Western Fishermen's Association
K. Green, Thames Estuary Fishermen's Association
W. K. Grigg. G. Traves, National Federation of Fishermen's Organisations
R. Ibbotson, East Coast
P. Ellis, Sussex
J. Andrew, Fleetwood Fishermen's Association
M. J. Woodhead, North Wales
Capt The Rt Hon W. J. Long, Northern Ireland Fish Producers' Organisation
J. Sinclair, White Fish Authority/Herring Industry Board
D. MacIver Robinson, Department of Trade
J. E. Tope, Department of Trade
A. Leslie, Department of Trade
K. J. Doyle, Department of Trade
B. S. Piggott, Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food
J. Tarvit, Department of Agriculture and Fisheries for Scotland
D. E. Gladding, (Secretary) Department of Trade.

New publications

Broad coverage of world commodity markets

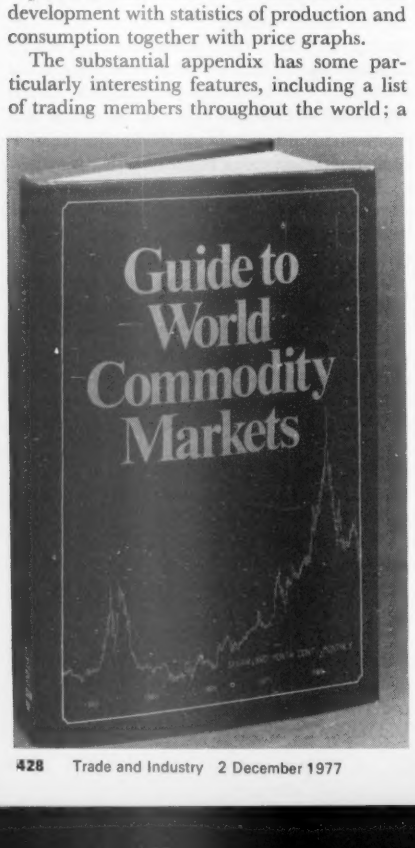
Up-to-date, concise information on the commodity markets of the world, particularly for the general reader, is not easy to come by. So the first edition of 'Guide to World Commodity Markets' is of considerable interest. The publishers describe it as 'the first book to deal exclusively with commodity markets' and claim that it 'provides a unique and invaluable directory of the various commodity markets currently trading all over the world'.

Coverage, certainly, is fairly broad. Detailed data is provided on individual exchanges, both for physical and future markets, in some 19 countries throughout the world. Information given includes addresses, telephone numbers, main officials, trading hours, trading limits and contract particulars, but the amount of detail varies considerably. While the exchanges in the western developed world are very well covered, those in the developing areas, such as India, only receive the briefest entry. Perhaps this is something to be corrected in future editions.

Also included is an interesting introductory section on the role and functions of the markets. The prospects for producer cartels and the markets' role in reflecting world prices and trade are analysed. Twelve major world commodities are examined in some depth. For each item there is a note on its development with statistics of production and consumption together with price graphs.

The substantial appendix has some particularly interesting features, including a list of trading members throughout the world; a glossary of English terms used in the market; a list of world time zones and an international conversion table.

This guide should prove worthwhile for anyone with an interest in the international commodity market both in this country and abroad.



Guide to World Commodity Markets: edited by Ethel de Keyser. Kogan Page. 1977. (308 pages. £12.50. ISBN 0 85038 411 7).

Banking for exporters

'Banks and the British exporter' was the theme of this year's Cambridge seminar of the Institute of Bankers, held at Christ's College last September. Tying-in with Export Year, the institute decided to look at the practical help – financial and otherwise – that the banking world can provide for exporters and potential exporters in this country.

As the seminar put a lot of emphasis on full participation by members there was a lot of work done in syndicate which the publication of the papers does not try to cover. The main meat of the published text of the seminar is therefore three papers, by R. J. Clark, W. J. Benson, and Sir Frederick Catherwood, chairman of the British Overseas Trade Board.

The background of two case studies and four discussion syllabi are reproduced, and these may provide valuable material for others arranging conferences or training sessions, although on their own they are of little value to the individual reading the text of the conference.

The proceedings are rounded out with a useful bibliography of 19 relevant journal and newspaper articles.

Banks and the British Exporter: based on the Seminar held at Christ's College, Cambridge, 11-16 September 1977. Institute of Bankers, 10 Lombard Street, London EC3V 9AS. 1977. (86 pages; paperback. £2.00. ISBN 0 85297 042 0).

The organisers: who does what, where

The proliferation of organisations, both formal and informal, in all fields offers very real problems of documentation. How to keep up with the latest changes, where to contact 'so and so', who is responsible for a specific topic, unanswered these questions can cause very real problems. It is good therefore, to see a centre of expertise in an important area such as the commonwealth, producing an up-to-date guide to organisations in its orbit. In this case a handbook of official and unofficial organisations active in the commonwealth.

The Commonwealth Secretariat's guide lists organisations in two sequences: official and unofficial. The entries are comparatively full, including, besides the address and telephone number, the name of the head of the organisation, summaries of histories and organisation, aims, activities, and publications. The official section is arranged under three headings: Commonwealth, Regional, and National Development Agencies. It is the unofficial sequence which is of most immediate value (as it lists the most-difficult-to-find organisations) and is subdivided into 14 subject areas such as 'culture', 'health' and 'youth'.

There are also lists of regular conferences and meetings, and trusts and foundations. A short bibliography lists 'some useful directories and reference books . . . about inter-governmental and non-governmental organisations, and educational institutions'. Finally there is an alphabetical index of all organisations listed.

The publication is excellent value and deserves to have a wide distribution.

Commonwealth Organisations: a handbook of official and unofficial organisations active in the Commonwealth. The Commonwealth Secretariat, Publications Section, Marlborough House, London SW1Y 5HX. 1977. (113 pages; paperback. £1.00. ISBN 0 85092 133 3).

Policy-making in the European communities

Hostility to the European communities on the part of its citizens may often be the result of ignorance as to its modus operandi. Detailed case-studies of how the European communities operate in particular instances and in different areas of policy are of interest not only from the subject point of view, but also to shed light on the range and diversity of community activity.

A recently published volume of original contributions offers just such a collection, for use as a means of assessing the successes and failures of community policy-making. The case-studies cover important areas of topical concern, such as energy policy, monetary policy, and foreign policy co-operation and trace the development of the European communities up to the end of 1975.

The editors also attempt to relate the studies to current theories of political integration and to examine the impact of community policy-making on national and international political processes.

Policy-Making in the European Communities: edited by Helen Wallace, William Wallace and Carole Webb. John Wiley. 1977. (341 pages. £10.50. ISBN 0 471 99423 5).

'T & I' index inquiries

Readers wanting to know when articles and items of information were published in *Trade and Industry* should consult the published indexes which are issued free to subscribers. For material published in recent months, inquiries of this kind can be made to the Department of Industry Library's indexing section, tel. 01-215 5842. (Alternative no 01-215 5051.)

Parliament

Monday, 21 November

Tourism in Merseyside

Robert Kilroy-Silk (Ormskirk) asked the Secretary of State for Trade if he would commission a special study of the tourist potential of Merseyside.

Mr Meacher said that the Secretary of State had no plans to do so. The English Tourist Board had commissioned a study of the north-west in 1973 which included the Merseyside area.

Robert Kilroy-Silk (Ormskirk) asked the Secretary of State for Trade why Merseyside was not included among the areas selected for the concentration of tourist developments and if he would indicate the criteria employed for selecting areas with fragile economies as being eligible for tourist schemes.

Mr Meacher replied that the three districts chosen for pilot experiments in the development of tourism growth points which all fell in scheduled development areas were characterised by particularly acute economic difficulties, yet had a high degree of under-developed tourism potential. Additionally, they were sufficiently typical to gather valuable experience in extending the technique elsewhere should success justify this, and the necessary resources become available. He said that he was bearing in mind the position of Merseyside but it did not appear to have this combination of features justifying the choice of the districts selected for the trial run. As a development area it had already benefited under section 4 of the Development of Tourism Act 1969 and applications under this section for assistance for projects in Merseyside could still be considered.

Tourist board's budgets

Rober Kilroy-Silk (Ormskirk) asked the Secretary of State for Trade why Scotland and Wales together received almost as much as England in the amounts allocated to the respective tourist boards for 1976-77 when England had a much larger population and significantly higher unemployment.

Mr Meacher pointed out that the secretaries of state for Scotland and Wales were responsible for the Scottish and Wales tourist boards respectively for their tourism budgets. They were not therefore determined centrally, but were allocated having regard to the overall economic needs and potential of the country concerned.

Allocations to tourist boards

Robert Kilroy-Silk (Ormskirk) asked the Secretary of State for Trade how much was being allocated to the English, Welsh and Scottish tourist boards, respectively, for 1977-78.

Mr Meacher gave the following figures:

1977/78 Estimates provision (£m):

	English Tourist Board	Scottish Tourist Board	Wales Tourist Board
Grant-in-aid	4.151	1.770	1.230
Selective tourist project assistance	1.940	1.100	1.158
Hotel development incentive scheme – outstanding claims	0.250	—	—

Selective tourism projects

Robert Kilroy-Silk (Ormskirk) asked the Secretary of State for Trade why the north-west had received only £134,590 between 1 April 1971 and 31 December 1976 under section 4 of the Development of Tourism Act 1969, whereas Cumbria had received £1,024,732, the west-country £1,023,637, Northumbria £1,002,017 and north Yorkshire £701,989.

Mr Meacher replied that the administration of selective tourism project assistance in England under section 4 of the Development of Tourism Act 1969 was a matter for the discretion of the English Tourist Board, whose responsibility it was.

Expenditure on science and technology

Norman Tebbit (Waltham Forest, Chingford) asked the Secretary of State for Trade what was the total sum expended from his department's vote upon science and technology; in what ways it was allocated; and how he ensured that such sums were spent wisely.

Mr Clinton Davis replied that the sum expended was £745,000 in 1976-77. The estimate for the current year was £692,000. These figures related to the department's expenditure on reseach in the aviation and marine fields, for example into aircraft noise and ways of clearing offshore oil pollution. In addition, functions connected with international agreements on scientific and technological matters accounted for about £100,000 of the department's annual provision for salaries and general administrative expenditure. All his department's projects were completely investigated before any funds were committed to them.

UK trade with Oman, Abu Dhabi and Dubai

T. H. H. Skeet (Bedford) asked the Secretary of State for Trade if he would indicate the balance of trade between the Sultanate of Oman and the UK, giving the value of the total UK goods and services provided to the Sultanate for the most recent years for which figures were available, and the nature of imports received from that country; the balance of trade between Abu Dhabi and the UK, giving the value of the total UK goods and services provided to Abu Dhabi for the most recent years for which figures were available, and the nature of imports received from that country; the balance of trade between Dubai and the UK, giving the value of the total UK goods and services provided to Dubai for the most recent years for which figures were available, and the nature of imports received from that country.

Mr Meacher said that the crude balance of trade in goods with these countries (exports valued fob minus imports cif) could be determined from table IB of the 1976 annual issue and the 1977 September issue of the *Overseas Trade Statistics of the United Kingdom*. Table II of these publications also provided a detailed commodity analysis of imports. Statistics of services provided to these countries were not available.

Imports of bacon, beef and butter

Peter Hordern (Horsham and Crawley) asked the Secretary of State for Trade if he would publish a table showing the value of imports of bacon, beef and butter over the latest 12 months compared with their value for the preceding 12 months.

Mr Meacher gave the following information:

£m cif

	12 months ending October 1976	12 months ending October 1977
Bacon (including ham and other treated pig meat)	227	269
Beef (including veal)	160	247
Butter	314	300

Imports and exports of scrap iron and steel

William Ross (Londonderry) asked the Secretary of State for Trade if he would list in the Official Report: the grades and tonnages and price per tonne of the 111 271 tonnes of scrap iron and steel exported from the UK in July 1977 at an average price per tonne; the grades, tonnages and price per tonne of the 4436 tonnes of scrap iron and steel imported into the UK in July 1977 at an average price £104.2 per tonne; the tonnage of iron and steel scrap imported into the UK and the value of such imports in 1977 and the exports of iron and steel scrap for 1977 and the value of such exports; if he would state the grades and tonnages of iron and steel scrap exported from the UK in 1977 and the grades and tonnages imported in 1977.

Mr Meacher replied that in January to October 1977 exports of waste and scrap metal of iron or steel were 793 180 tonnes valued at £32.014 million fob and imports were 90 044 tonnes valued at £8.612 million cif. Information by grade of scrap iron and steel was not collected in the overseas trade statistics.

Imports of crude oil

Neil Macfarlane (Sutton and Cheam) asked the Secretary of State for Trade if he would list each month's imports of crude oil throughout 1976; and what had been the monthly level of crude oil imports for the first 10 months of 1977.

Mr Meacher gave the following information:

Imports of crude petroleum (SITC(R) 331.01) Million tons

	1976	1977
January	7.75	7.22
February	7.63	5.60
March	7.16	6.87
April	7.66	5.37
May	6.95	7.03
June	7.25	5.79
July	6.94	4.71
August	6.57	5.14
September	7.02	5.32
October	6.07	5.28
November	8.43	
December	7.14	

Source: Overseas Trade Statistics of the United Kingdom

Security at Palma airport

Neville Trotter (Tynemouth) asked the Secretary of State for Trade further to his reply of 14 November, whether he was now satisfied with the security arrangements at Palma airport.

Mr Clinton Davis replied that although he was always reluctant to express complete satisfaction with security arrangements anywhere, the steps recently taken by the Spanish authorities at Palma and elsewhere had resulted in greatly increased security.

Credit facilities in shipbuilding

Frederick Willey (Sunderland North) asked the Secretary of State for Trade whether he would make a statement comparing the credit facilities afforded for building ships in the UK with those afforded in competing foreign countries; and in what respects particular foreign countries offered more advantageous terms.

Mr Meacher replied that the export credit facilities officially supported by major shipbuilding countries were governed by the terms of an OECD understanding. Support from ECGD was available to British exporters of ships within the terms of this understanding. It was believed that this enabled them to offer commercial credit terms which were fully competitive with the facilities offered by foreign builders.

Frederick Willey (Sunderland North) asked the Secretary of State for Trade what representations he had received about the need to improve the credit facilities for the building of ships in the UK.

Mr Meacher replied that he had received representations on behalf of the shipbuilding industry

Ministers

Department of Industry

Secretary of State: Eric Varley
Ministers of State: Alan Williams
Gerald Kaufman
Parliamentary Under-Secretaries of State: Robert Cryer
Leslie Huckfield

Department of Trade

Secretary of State: Edmund Dell
Parliamentary Under-Secretaries of State: Michael Meacher
Stanley Clinton Davis

Department of Prices and Consumer Protection

Secretary of State: Roy Hattersley
Minister of State: John Fraser
Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State: Robert Maclennan

that sales, particularly to developing countries, could be increased if more liberal export credit terms were allowed than those currently prescribed by the OECD understanding. This would, of course, require the agreement of other participants in the OECD understanding.

First aid on stand-by vessels

Hamish Watt (Banff) asked the Secretary of State for Trade if he was satisfied with the standard of first-aid equipment currently carried on board standby vessels in the UK sector of the North Sea; and what action he proposed to take to improve the situation.

Mr Clinton Davis said that the recommended minimum standard for medical equipment to be carried by stand-by vessels operating in the UK sector of the North Sea were based upon scales laid down in the Merchant Shipping (Medical Scales) Regulations 1974 supplemented by additional equipment. He said that he had no evidence to lead him to conclude that the recommended standard was not being complied with.

Flags flown in UK sector of North Sea

Hamish Watt (Banff) asked the Secretary of State for Trade how many vessels presently used on standby duties at oil rigs and production platforms in the UK sector of the North Sea flew the British flag; how many flew flags of other countries; and if he will list these countries; how many vessels, currently engaged as standby vessels at oil rigs and production platforms in the UK sector of the North Sea, flew flags of convenience.

Mr Clinton Davis replied that under safety survey arrangements agreed with offshore oil operators his department had issued certificates of survey in respect of 84 British stand-by vessels. In addition, certificates had been issued to 18 foreign flag vessels as follows: Holland 4, Norway 10, Panama 1, United States 1 and West Germany 2.

Survival radio for ships

Mr James Johnson (Kingston-upon-Hull West) asked the Secretary of State for Trade what investigations he was currently making into the subject of survival radio for ships at sea; and whether it was his intention to make it a mandatory requirement for British trawlers to carry radio beacons, as was demanded by the governments of Norway, the United States of America and Australia.

Mr Clinton Davis replied that his department was co-operating in research into the performance of emergency position indicating radio beacons and also in international studies on the development of a device using satellite techniques. In view of the current limitations of such equipment he did not at present feel justified in making their carriage on trawlers a statutory requirement.

Price Commission report on BR fares

Geoffrey Dodsworth (South West Hertfordshire) asked the Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection when he expects to receive the report of the Price Commission on the investigation of proposed increased passenger fares proposed by British Railways to be effective from 1 January 1978.

Mr Hattersley replied that in accordance with section 6(1)(b)(i) of the Price Commission Act 1977 the Price Commission had to make its report by early February 1978.

Fees and practices of consulting engineers

Alan Lee Williams (Havering, Hornchurch) asked the Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection whether he had referred to the Monopolies Commission the fees and practices of consulting engineers.

Mr Fraser replied that there were no plans to do so at present. But the director-general of fair trading was continuing to keep professional practices under review in the light of recent Monopolies and Mergers Commission reports.

Service charges

John Osborn (Sheffield, Hallam) asked the Secretary of State for Trade if he would have discussions with the British Hotels, Restaurants and Caterers Association to establish a code with regard to service charges, so that both management, staff and guests could understand the purpose of a tip, understand when a tip was expected and when service was included, including a charge for staff.

Mr Meacher said that he understood that BHRCA had recommended to their members that service charges be included in the tariff. This was a principle embodied in the government's voluntary code of booking practice and foreshadowed part of the statutory order on price notification to be laid before the Commons shortly.

Government publications in London

from HMSO, 49 High Holborn WC1V 6HB

Draft directive on precious metals

Austin Mitchell (Grimsby) asked the Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection if he would make a statement on the present situation with regard to the EEC draft directive on precious metals.

Mr Fraser said that he understood that the commission had recently announced their intention to withdraw their proposal for a directive in this field. The government regarded this draft directive as unsatisfactory in a number of ways, notably that it would have led to reduced consumer protection in this area so far as the United Kingdom was concerned. He accordingly welcomed the commission's decision to abandon it.

Investment in manufacturing industry

Kenneth Clarke (Rushcliffe) asked the Secretary of State for Industry what was his department's latest estimate of the probable level of investment in manufacturing industry in the next 12 months.

Mr Cryer replied that the latest investment intentions survey carried out by his department in August and early September indicated that the volume of manufacturing industry investment would be between 12 and 17 per cent greater in 1978 than in 1977. This would bring it to between £1,980 million and £2,070 million at 1970 prices.

Robert Woof (Blaydon): asked the Secretary of State for Industry what recent studies his department had made into the reasons for low private investment in the UK manufacturing industries as compared with other industrial countries.

Mr Cryer said that studies in his department and elsewhere suggested that over the last two decades in relation to manufacturing output, manufacturing investment had not been particularly low compared with other industrial countries. However the rate of growth of investment as of output had been well below that of Britain's competitors. Investment had been particularly depressed over the last few years as a result of the world recession. But with the recent improvement of the financial climate and the prospect of a significant increase in output over the next year a considerable improvement in the level of investment could be expected.

Progress on planning agreements

Jeff Rooker (Birmingham, Perry Barr) asked the Secretary of State for Industry if he would make a further statement on progress towards planning agreements.

Mr Cryer said that he had repeatedly expressed his disappointment at the rate of progress being made in the implementation of planning agreement policy, which was announced early in the passage of the 1975 Industry Bill as being voluntary. The government remained firmly committed to the concept of planning agreements.

Wholesale price index

William Molloy (Ealing North) asked the Secretary of State for Industry what had been the rise in industrial raw material costs in the current financial year to date.

Mr Cryer replied that on average there had been no rise in the costs of materials purchased by manufacturing industries. On the contrary, the wholesale prices index showed that average prices in October were 5 per cent less than in April.

Imports of textiles from Hong Kong

Kenneth Clarke (Rushcliffe) asked the Secretary of State for Trade whether he would set out in the Official Report the extent of the decline in the level of imports of clothing and textiles from Hong Kong in the last two years.

Mr Meacher gave the following information:

	1975		1976		January-September 1977	
	Value (£m)	Qty (tonnes)	Value (£m)	Qty (tonnes)	Value (£m)	Qty (tonnes)
Textile yarn, fabrics, made-up articles and related products	40.2	29 418	54.6	26 230	39.0	23 305
Textile clothing	159.4	39 443	221.3	41 422	151.4	26 120
Total	199.5	68 861	276.0	67 652	190.3	49 425

Proportion of gnp to investment

David Knox (Leek) asked the Secretary of State for Industry if he would publish in the Official Report a table showing for each year since 1945 in terms of both current prices and revalued at 1970 prices the proportion of the gross national product devoted to investment by manufacturing industry.

Mr Cryer said that data at current prices was only available from 1948 and at constant prices from 1948. The proportions for the years 1948 to 1976 were as follows:

	Capital expenditure by manufacturing industry as percentage of gnp at market prices	
	Current prices	1970 prices
1948	2.7	
1949	3.0	
1950	3.3	
1951	3.5	not available
1952	3.5	
1953	3.2	
1954	3.2	
1955	3.5	3.2
1956	4.0	3.7
1957	4.2	3.8
1958	3.9	3.6
1959	3.6	3.3
1960	4.0	3.7
1961	4.5	4.2
1962	4.1	3.9
1963	3.5	3.3
1964	3.7	3.5
1965	3.9	3.8
1966	4.0	3.8
1967	3.7	3.6
1968	3.6	3.6
1969	4.0	4.0
1970	4.1	4.1
1971	3.8	3.8
1972	3.2	3.2
1973	3.1	3.0
1974	3.8	3.5
1975	3.3	3.1
1976	3.2	2.9

Sources
National Income and Expenditure Blue Books and Economic Trends. Annual Supplement.

Note
The figures for 1968 and 1969 have been adjusted to transfer from 1968 into 1969 the capital expenditure brought forward to secure the higher rate of investment grant operating up to 31 December 1968.

NEB capital debt

Michael Grylls (North West Surrey) asked the Secretary of State for Industry when he expected to notify the National Enterprise Board of the size of its capital debt.

Mr Huckfield said that the board was notified on 4 February 1977 of the size of its initial capital debt, in accordance with the provisions of schedule 2 of the Industry Act, 1975, and was being notified of the revised amount reflecting the repayment by Ferranti Ltd on 10 November 1977 of a loan of £6,333,334.

NEB recommendations for Merseyside the NE and NW

Robert Kilroy-Silk (Ormskirk) asked the Secretary of State for Industry if he would list, separately for the north-east, north-west and Merseyside, the recommendations made by the National Enterprise Board and indicate, in each case: (a) the action taken so far, (b) work in progress, and (c) future plans; and, where no action had been taken or planned, why no action had been taken or was planned.

Mr Huckfield said that he assumed the question referred to the recommendations made by the National Enterprise Board in its report to the Prime Minister on investment potential in the north-east and north-west of England. The recommendations were as follows:

North-east

1 To stimulate the tourist industry in the north-east, the scope and need for improving training facilities in the hotel and catering trades should be examined.

2 The NEB should continue to support potentially profitable industry in the north-east, and should join with Government Departments, the BNOC and other interests to see whether, by co-ordination of their efforts, a major British offshore contracting company can be established.
3 The nationalised industries should take increasing account of international design and specifications so that their UK suppliers in the north-east and elsewhere are able to build up a thriving export business.
4 The Procurement Executive of the Ministry of Defence should consider sponsoring the development of certain products (eg coastguard defence vessels and on/off road heavy vehicles) which can be manufactured and have substantial export potential.

North-west (including Merseyside)

5 To stimulate office employment on Merseyside special arrangements should be made between the Liverpool Corporation, a developer and the Department of Industry to build a speculative office block in Liverpool to attract office employment from outside the assisted areas.
6 The measures already announced by the Government to provide resources for the inner areas of large cities should be used to stimulate the construction industry on Merseyside and the need for further resources of a similar nature should be kept under review.
7 The designation of Industrial Improvement Areas should be considered on Merseyside and they should be recognised as areas of highest priority for all forms of assistance in order to ensure a balanced improvement.
8 The Department of Industry's counselling service for small businesses should be extended to Merseyside.
9 The Liverpool Corporation should examine the possibility of encouraging larger companies with manufacturing space to spare to release part for small companies possibly in return for rate relief.
10 The Department of Industry should initiate a study to identify industries which might be attracted to the port area of Merseyside.

North-east and north-west (including Merseyside)

11 The Government should consider a widening of the differential in regional assistance which the Special Development Areas enjoy compared with other areas.
12 The Government should consider a relaxation of the eligibility rules for selective assistance under Section 7 of the Industry Act 1972 which presently apply to locally-based service industry in the Special Development Areas.
13 The NEB should intensify its efforts to stimulate the growth of smaller manufacturing companies in the north and north-west regions by providing finance for expansion and modernisation.
14 The NEB should examine the feasibility of setting up a contracting company to undertake certain companies in the north-east and also whether a similar approach might be adopted in other industrial sectors and other localities in the northern and north-west regions.
15 The Government should devote a larger proportion of the resources available for advance factories to the provision of nursery factories in Merseyside and the north-east.

Nine of the 11 recommendations accepted had been, or soon would be, implemented by the government or the NEB as appropriate. Recommendations (2) and (5) are still under consideration. The government had not accepted recommendations (1), (4) and (12). In the case of (1) the government considered that there was no evidence that training facilities were inadequate. In the case of (4) the Procurement Executive felt they could not sponsor the development and production of items for which there was no UK service requirement. Through the defence organisation, the Procurement Executive was always willing to assist in the promotion of sales of all defence equipment overseas. In the case of (12) locally-based service industries depended on local demand, which would not be increased by giving aid to them. Recommendation (9) was a matter for Liverpool Corporation.

The creation of NEB regional boards would enable added local stimulus to be given to the implementation of these initiatives.

Abbreviations

Ivor Clemitson (Luton East) asked the Secretary of State for Industry if he would publish a list of the abbreviations commonly used by his department in parliamentary speeches, statements and answers to questions with their respective meanings.

Mr Huckfield replied that in general his department used abbreviations in parliamentary speeches, statements and answers to questions only where the meaning had been made clear elsewhere in the text. The most common abbreviations were as follows:

BAe	British Aerospace
BL	British Leyland
BS	British Shipbuilders
BSC	British Steel Corporation
CADC	Computer Aided Design Centre
CDA	Co-operative Development Agency
ERDF	European Regional Development Fund
IA	Intermediate Area
IDAB	Industrial Development Advisory Board
i.d.c.	industrial development certificate
ISERBS	Iron and Steel Employees Redundancy Benefits Scheme
LGC	Laboratory of the Government Chemist
MFA	Multi-Fibre Arrangement
NEB	National Enterprise Board
NEL	National Engineering Laboratory
NMI	National Maritime Institute
NPL	National Physical Laboratory
NRDC	National Research Development Corporation
PO	Post Office
SDA	Special Development Area
WSL	Warren Spring Laboratory

World steel prices

John Osborn (Sheffield, Hallam) asked the Secretary of State for Industry what discussions he was having with the British Steel Corporation, the EEC commission, and world steel producers including Japan and the United States of America, to avoid price cutting and dumping, securing improvements in productivity, and maintaining employment within the UK.

Mr Huckfield said that the secretary of state was in close touch with the British Steel Corporation on all important matters affecting them. The problems of the steel industry were being discussed that day by the council of ministers, which the Secretary of State for Trade was attending. Multilateral discussions on steel had been organised by the OECD; the United Kingdom was taking part.

Protection of the machine tool industry

Robert Woof (Blaydon) asked the Secretary of State for Industry what steps were being taken to protect the British machine tool industry from unfair foreign competition; and if he would make a statement.

Mr Cryer said that if there was evidence of unfair foreign competition against this industry he would be grateful if this could be sent to him. It would receive careful attention and the government would consider taking whatever action was possible consistent with Britain's international obligations.

Assistance for the machine tool industry

Robert Woof (Blaydon) asked the Secretary of State for Industry what action he had taken to assist and advise the machine tool industry, in view of the rate of unemployment.

Mr Cryer replied that officials of his department were available to give advice through the industrial strategy sector working party and in discussions with the trade association and individual companies. Through the machine tool industry scheme the Department of Industry was providing financial assistance to a large number of companies in the industry to help them to improve their manufacturing facilities and to develop new products. The industry was also eligible for the normal range of government incentives and assistance, including temporary employment subsidy.

Mild steel production, imports and exports

John Osborn (Sheffield, Hallam) asked the Secretary of State for Industry what was now the rate of output of mild steel, by category and in total, expressed as a tonnage and value in the British steel industry, including the British Steel Corporation, how much of this was exported, and what were the corresponding imports; how this compared with: (a) a year ago and (b) five years ago.

Mr Huckfield said that the only relevant information available was in respect of deliveries of non-alloy steel in tonnage terms and was as follows:

Deliveries of finished non-alloy steel '000 tonnes

	1st half 1972			1st half 1976			1st half 1977		
	Home production	Imports	Exports	Home production	Imports	Exports	Home production	Imports	Exports
Ingots, blooms, billets and slabs	207	—	64	234	—	65	322	—	158
Plates 3 mm thick + over	1 327	142	284	1 076	267	154	1 016	219	162
Other heavy rolled products	1 127	18	261	976	48	283	974	56	279
Light rolled products	1 847	335	329	2 023	204	428	1 961	203	607
Bright steel bars	208	—	17	237	3	19	254	4	25
Hot and cold rolled strip	475	27	32	436	28	24	440	32	29
Sheet, hot rolled and cold reduced	2 151	369	680	1 346	658	225	1 304	465	303
Tinplate and blackplate	659	—	160	561	91	103	645	65	132
Tubes and pipes	699	68	172	612	273	147	590	117	176
Other finished steel	127	1	16	146	3	18	129	3	13
Total	8 828	960	2 015	7 647	1 575	1 467	7 635	1 225	1 884

Source: Iron and Steel Statistics Bureau.

Imports of hobbing machines

Robert Woof (Blaydon) asked the Secretary of State for Industry how many hobbing machines had been imported from Germany into Great Britain during the last six months; at what cost; and how this compared with sales of British manufactured machines.

Mr Cryer said that United Kingdom sales figures for so specific a machine type as gear hobbing were not separately collected. The table (below) showed the most recently available, broadly comparable, statistics for imports from West Germany and sales by UK machine tool manufacturers.

	Oct 1976-Mar 1977		Apr 1977-Sept 1977	
	No	Value (£000)	No	Value
Imports of new gear-making machinery from West Germany				
Gear hobbing	7	325	8	513
Gear cutting and other gear making and finishing	12	141	4	16
Total	19	466	12	529
UK sales of gear making and finishing machines				
Total	110	2 537	N/A	N/A
of which exports	32	547		
Sales to home market	78	1 990		

Laboratory equipment industry

Gwilym Roberts (Cannock) asked the Secretary of State for Industry what study he had made of the effects of the laboratory equipment industry of curbs in university spending; what plans he had to stimulate the industry; and if he would make a statement.

Mr Cryer said that the difficulties facing some firms in the laboratory equipment and scientific instrument industry had no doubt been increased by curbs in public sector spending. The problems of this sector were taken into account in formulating the instrumentation and automation industry scheme announced last August, which complemented the assistance already available under the Science and Technology Act 1965. It was too early to assess the effect of the scheme but the number of inquiries generated by the announcement indicated that it would prove a significant stimulant.

Movement of industry in NE

Robert Woof (Blaydon) asked the Secretary of State for Industry, what was the amount of public money expended during the years 1974, 1975 and 1976 to the latest available figures to encourage the movement of industry to the north-east development area.

Mr Cryer said that he regretted that information was not available in the form requested but the estimated annual amounts of expenditure on regional assistance to industry in the northern development area for the years 1974/75-1976/77 were as follows:

£ million

1974-75	1975-76	1976-77
122	185	237

All expenditure was gross and included payments to nationalised industries. The figures included regional development grants, regional selective financial assistance, expenditure on government fac-

tories, investment grant differential (estimated) in favour of the assisted areas, residual expenditure under the local employment acts and regional employment premium.

In addition, the following grants were paid to the North of England Development Corporation:

£ thousands

1974-75	1975-76	1976-77
100	106.6	106.6

These grants were made to supplement funds raised locally to enable the corporation to seek out new industry for the region by promotional activities elsewhere in the UK and overseas.

Expenditure on science and technology

Norman Tebbit (Waltham Forest, Chingford) asked the Secretary of State for Industry what was the total sum expended from his department's vote upon science and technology; in what ways it was allocated; and how he ensured that such sums were spent wisely.

Mr Huckfield pointed out that the main bulk of his department's expenditure on science and technology was made under the Science and Technology Act and the Civil Aviation Act 1949. Net expenditure under these acts was expected to total £122.3m in 1977–78, and was allocated as follows:

Industrial innovation	£m
General Industrial Research and Development – Class IV Vote 3	
Industrial Research Establishments and Computer Aided Design Centre	18.1
Industrial Research and Development Contracts, Grants and Other Support	22.2
Technological and Industrial Sponsorship – Class IV Vote 4	
Industrial support and development contracts and software development scheme	9.5
Aerospace – Class IV Vote 5	
Aircraft and Aeroengine projects and assistance	
Aircraft and aeroengine general research and development programme	15.6
Development of the Concorde Aircraft	23.1
Development of RB211 engines	−1.5
Other civil aircraft and engine projects	2.8
Space	
National Space Technology Programme	3.3
International Space Programmes	29.2
Further detail is available in Supply Estimates 1977–78 Class IV.	

Some additional expenditure for technological development is included in the provision for the various industry schemes under section 8 of the Industry Act 1972.

In deciding the allocation and utilisation of funds, Mr Huckfield said that he had the advice of various bodies including Research and Development Requirements Boards, the Joint Research Committee, the Joint Space Group, the Aeronautical Research Council and the Joint Committee for Avionics Systems Research. These bodies included representatives from industry to ensure that the programmes supported were directed towards industrial needs.

Assistance to Calderdale

Max Madden (Sowerby) asked the Secretary of State for Industry how much financial assistance had been given in total to companies in the areas of each of the four constituent authorities now comprising Calderdale Metropolitan District Council on an annual basis, since the introduction of the Industry Act 1972; and how many individual companies had benefited.

Mr Cryer said that offers of regional selective assistance under section 7 of the Industry Act 1972 had been made between the start of the act and 30 September 1977 to companies in the Calderdale Metropolitan District as below. Companies could also claim regional development grant under part I of the act on the cost of new building. Details of these payments were not readily available.

Contravention of the pricing rules

Robert Woof (Blaydon) asked the Secretary of State for Industry what provisions were made by the treaty of Paris regarding alleged contravention of pricing rules.

Mr Huckfield said that article 64 of the treaty of Paris empowered the European commission to fine undertakings which contravened the pricing rules of the treaty.

European regional development fund

Robert Woof (Blaydon) asked the Secretary of State for Industry what further progress he expected to make in 1978 with the EEC commissioner for regional policies on the regional fund.

Mr Williams said that he hoped agreement would be reached by the end of the year on proposals for a community regional policy and for amendments to the European regional development fund regulation.

EEC companies in Britain

Robert Woof (Blaydon) asked the Secretary of State for Industry how many inquiries his department had received since 1 January 1975 from companies in the EEC contemplating new projects in the development areas of the northern region.

Mr Cryer said that since 1 January 1975 an estimated 100 EEC firms had made specific inquiries of his department about the possibility of setting up manufacturing projects in the northern region. Officials in his department and of the Foreign and Commonwealth Office in posts in EEC countries were also in regular contact with foreign firms, discussion with whom might lead at a later date to investment in the northern region. In addition, his department made a grant-in-aid of £¼ million annually to the North of England Development Council to support its own promotional work on inward investment.

Regional assistance in Sowerby

Max Madden (Sowerby) asked the Secretary of State for Industry how many jobs had been created or safeguarded by all forms of public financial assistance since 1972, for which his department was responsible, in the Sowerby constituency; and if he would make a statement.

Mr Cryer replied that up to 30 September 1977, 14 offers of regional selective assistance had been made under section 7 of the Industry Act 1972 in respect of 13 projects in the Sowerby constituency. These projects were expected to provide 700 new jobs and to safeguard a further 200 jobs. Employment was also safeguarded by payments of regional employment premium and temporary employment subsidy.

Tuesday, 22 November

Levy for aviation security

Kevin McNamara (Kingston upon Hull Central) asked the Secretary of State for Trade if he would now confirm the rates of levy to aviation security during 1978-79.

Mr Clinton Davis said that it was intended that the arrangements he had announced on the 27 May 1977 (*Official Report* volume 932, column 658/9) should apply. The levy on 28 airport authorities, which were licensed for public use by or were owned by the Civil Aviation Authority and which had more than 50,000 passengers in 1976, would be at the rate of 80p per arriving passenger. Regulations to confirm these arrangements would be laid before parliament when the legislation mentioned in the Queen's speech had been enacted.

Dispersal of aircraft routes from Heathrow

William Molloy (Ealing North) asked the Secretary of State for Trade what consideration had been given to further dispersal of aircraft routes to and from Heathrow.

Mr Clinton Davis replied that he was currently considering whether the experimental dispersal of the Mole Valley route should be continued. Since he agreed with the advice of the Noise Advisory Council, that the balance of advantage lay in maintaining a stabilised route structure based on minimum noise routes, no other consideration was being given to route dispersal.

British microwave landing system

Winston Churchill (Stretford) asked what steps government were taking to ensure that the British Microwave Landing System received a fair trial in the USA; and if he would make a statement.

Mr Huckfield, following to his reply (*Official Report* vol 939, col 368) said that the UK Civil Aviation Authority had agreed with the United States Federal Aviation Administration a programme of comparative trials, to be attended by neutral observers, of both the UK Doppler Microwave Landing System and the US Time Reference Scanning Beam at a number of airports including J. F Kennedy in New York.

Shipbuilding industry

Teddy Taylor (Glasgow, Cathcart) asked the Secretary of State for Industry what plans he had to restructure the shipbuilding industry; and if he would make a statement.

Mr Huckfield said that it was the duty of British Shipbuilders to prepare a corporate plan for the industry which would be considered by his department.

Fishing vessel surveys

Neville Trotter (Tynemouth) asked the Secretary of State for Trade what was his estimate of the net effect on public funds of the decision to reduce the initial survey fee for fishing vessels to the lower level applicable to renewal surveys; how much in total would now be refunded to fishermen; to what extent there had been a reduction in departmental costs relating to the surveys compared with original estimates; and whether the survey scheme would now be self-financing.

Mr Clinton Davis replied that in the three financial years 1977/78 to 1979/80 it was estimated that the total income from fishing vessels survey fees would be reduced by about £300,000 in all. About £34,000 would be refunded to fishermen, mostly in respect of fees paid in earlier years. There was no evidence of a reduction in departmental costs at a time when the cost effectiveness of survey work had suffered from reluctance of owners to offer their vessels for survey. However, it was intended that, in future, the fees for surveys other than initial surveys of existing vessels should cover the costs involved.

Companies registration postal service

Max Madden (Sowerby) asked the Secretary of State for Trade, whether he would review his decision to approve the Companies Registration Office's ceasing to operate a postal inquiry service, in view of the statutory requirements on companies to register information fully and promptly.

Mr Clinton Davis pointed out that the postal inquiry services formerly operated on a non-statutory basis by the Company Registration Offices in London and Edinburgh had to be withdrawn because of the need to concentrate staff resources on statutory functions. In view of the continuing need for economies in civil service manpower he regretted that he saw no prospect of their reintroduction.

Industrial development certificates

John Parker (Barking, Dagenham) asked the Secretary of State for Industry whether an industrial development certificate was refused to Ford's for further development at their Dagenham plant; and why.

Mr Cryer replied that applications for industrial development certificates were normally made to the department in confidence. Details of individual cases could not therefore generally be disclosed, but in this case Ford had no objection to the government disclosing that no application for an industrial development certificate at Dagenham from their company had been refused.

Market dominance of certain retailers

Ian Wrigglesworth (Teesside, Thornaby) asked the Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection whether he would review the operation of section 6 of the Fair Trading Act 1973, in the light of the danger of market dominance by certain retailers.

Mr Fraser said that the operation of this section would be considered in the general review of the legislation announced in the Queen's speech. Although retailing was generally extremely competitive, the buying power of large retailers was currently being investigated by the Monopolies and

Travel to work area	1972/3 No	1972/3 Value	1973/4 No	1973/4 Value	1974/5 No	1974/5 Value	1975/6 No	1975/6 Value	1976/7 No	1976/7 Value	1977/8 No	1977/8 Value
		£		£		£		£		£		£
Halifax	1	7,700	5	568 900	5	132 503	2	127 111	7	411 601	5	103 222
Brighouse		—	3	21 380	2	18 500	2	3 902	4	72 643	1	3 324
Hebden Bridge		—	1	5 300		—	1	2 526		—		—
Todmorden	9	92 000	1	68 000	1	1 700	2	178 912	1	27 438		—

Mergers Commission in the course of a general reference on discounts to retailers which the Secretary of State made in July.

Abbreviations

Ivor Clemitson (Luton East) asked the Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection if he would publish a list of the abbreviations commonly used by his department in parliamentary speeches, statements and answers to questions with their respective meaning.

Mr Hattersley gave the following information:

Abbreviation	Definition
CBI	Confederation of British Industry
CAP	Common Agricultural Policy
EEC	European Economic Community
FEOGA	Fonds Européens d'Orientation et de Garantie Agricole
MCA	Monetary Compensatory Amounts
NEDO	National Economic Development Office
RPI	Retail Price Index
TUC	Trades Union Congress
VAT	Value Added Tax

NEB industrial democracy

Michael Grylls (North West Surrey) asked the Secretary of State for Industry if he would make a statement on the progress made by the National Enterprise Board in encouraging participation by all employees in its subsidiary and associated companies.

Mr Huckfield said that the NEB's statutory functions included the promotion of industrial democracy in undertakings which the board controlled and the NEB were required to make arrangements with their subsidiaries to ensure that they played their part in furthering government policies in this field.

Government service to exporters

Malcolm Rifkind (Edinburgh, Pentlands) asked the Secretary of State for Trade whether he was satisfied with the steps taken by the government to increase exports.

Mr Meacher said that he was satisfied that government services in the light of exporters' needs were constantly being developed, for example, a new Market Entry Guarantee scheme was about to be introduced.

Wednesday, 23 November

Investment in Merseyside

Robert Kilroy-Silk (Ormskirk) asked the Secretary of State for Industry how much financial assistance has been committed to manufacturing industry in: (a) the Merseyside special development area and (b) the other assisted areas under section 8 of the industry scheme of the National Industrial Strategy.

Mr Cryer replied that investment carried out or proposed in the Merseyside special development area had led to: payment of an estimated £125 million in regional development grants; offers of £39 million of regional selective assistance under section 7 of the Industry Act 1972; further projects involving investment of £31 million are currently under consideration; offers of nearly £2 million of assistance through the schemes introduced by this government under section 8 of the Industry Act 1972; and applications for further projects involving investment of £10 million are also under consideration. He pointed out that some £78 million of assistance has been committed under section 8 schemes introduced by the government for projects in the other assisted areas.

Inquiries into retail trading by BSO

David Mitchell (Basingstoke) asked the Secretary of State for Trade what was the cost of the 'Inquiry into Retail Trading for 1976'; and how many staff were employed on the inquiry by the Business Statistics Office; how many staff would be employed in dealing with and what was the estimated cost of the 'Inquiry into Retail Trading for 1977.

Mr Meacher replied that the revised estimate of the cost of the 1976 retail trade inquiry was £470,000 at current costs. On the same basis that for 1977 was expected to be around £400,000. Many of the staff working on these inquiries would not be employed exclusively on them. For the 1976 inquiry it was estimated that the collection and analysis of the data would require about 25 staff for a two-year period, (excluding the time of operational staff involved in processing the results). The corresponding requirement for the 1977 inquiry would be for between 20 and 25 staff, again for a two-year period.

David Mitchell (Basingstoke) asked the Secretary of State for Trade, what information was gained by the Business Statistics Office from an inquiry into retail trading that was not already available to his department from other sources.

Mr Meacher replied that the annual retailing inquiries were in general required to provide information on turnover, stocks and capital expenditure of businesses having some or all of their activities in retailing. For their retailing activities only, information was obtained on turnover by country, stocks and the asset breakdown of their capital expenditure; on the relationship of persons employed to turnover, by kinds of business; and on a detailed breakdown of retail sales by commodity. This information was required for use in compiling the national accounts and for monitoring developments in the economy, and also for studying the structure of the retail industry. Such information could not be obtained other than by means of these direct inquiries.

David Mitchell (Basingstoke) asked the Secretary of State for Trade, why, in the proposed retail inquiry for 1977, it was necessary for a grocer to calculate the retail receipts separately from any wholesale receipts; and why it was necessary for grocers to separate calculations of the sales of groceries and provisions from other food including chocolate.

Mr Meacher replied that businesses were asked for an analysis of total turnover by activity in order to classify the nature of any activities other than retailing covered in their return. The analysis of sales by commodity was to adjust retail sales to constant prices, which was important for the monthly retail sales index.

David Mitchell (Basingstoke) asked the Secretary of State for Trade, what purpose was served by requiring retailers responding to the proposed retail inquiry for 1977 to keep separate records of sales receipts for alcoholic drinks.

Mr Meacher said that retailers were asked to provide separate details of sales of alcoholic drink within their total sales so that retail sales could be adjusted to constant prices. They were also needed to estimate the pattern of such sales for input-output purposes.

David Mitchell (Basingstoke) asked what action was taken against retailers who refused to complete an inquiry into retail trading.

Mr Meacher said that every effort was made by officials at the Business Statistics Office to assist retailers who had any difficulties with the completion of their form. However, businesses which persistently refused to co-operate were liable to prosecution under section 4 of the Statistics of Trade Act, 1947.

David Mitchell (Basingstoke) asked for what purposes retailers would be required to give VAT details when answering the 'Inquiry into Retail Trading for 1977'.

Mr Meacher replied that if the questioner had in mind the proposed question on VAT on retail sales, this information was needed for the calculation of gross margins exclusive of VAT and for the estimation of value added by the retail trade.

David Mitchell (Basingstoke) asked the Secretary of State for Trade what estimate his department has made of the average cost to retailers of completing the 'Inquiry into Retail Trading for 1977'.

Mr Meacher replied that such estimates could not be made without disproportionate effort. The time taken and costs involved by a business in completing their return depended upon the type of form received and how readily the business had the information available.

David Mitchell (Basingstoke) asked the Secretary of State for Trade how many retailers received the 'Inquiry into Retail Trading for 1976'; and how many did not complete it; how many retailers would receive the 'Inquiry into Retail Trading for 1977' and what this figure was as a proportion of the total numbers of retailers.

Mr Meacher replied that information was not available in the precise form requested. 30,424 forms had been sent out. By 11 November 22,485 had been returned and forms were still being received. About 25,000 retailers would receive the 'Inquiry into Retail Trading for 1977; that was about 1 in 12 of all retailers.

Costs and staffing at BSO

David Mitchell (Basingstoke) asked the Secretary of State for Industry what was the total cost of the Business Statistics Office per annum; how many people were employed by the office; and if he would list all the surveys being undertaken currently by the office.

Mr Huckfield replied that the total cost of the Business Statistics Office in the financial year 1976-77 was £6.8 million. The average number of persons employed in that year was 1066. A list of surveys currently being carried out by the Business Statistics Office was as follows:

Survey	Frequency
Census of production (manufacturing)	Annually
Manufacturers' sales	Quarterly
Manufacturers' purchases	Every 3-4 years
Engineering sales and orders	Monthly
Miscellaneous inquiries into production, stocks and/or orders	Monthly
Census of production (construction)	Annually
Building materials production	Quarterly and monthly
Minerals raised	Annually
Electricity generated by large users	Quarterly
Purchases of fuel by large users	Quarterly
Fuel stocks and consumption of large users	Quarterly in summer/monthly in winter
Expenditure on research and development	Every 2 to 3 years
Retailing inquiry (turnover, purchases, etc.)	Annually
Retail sales	Monthly
Inquiries into capital expenditure and stocks in the distributive and service trades:	
Wholesaling and dealing	Annually
Motor trades	Annually
Property companies	Annually
Catering	Annually
Entertainment	Annually
Road transport	Annually
Transport services and storage	Annually
Business services	Annually
Miscellaneous services	Annually
Film exhibitors (admissions, takings, capacity)	Annually
Motor trades turnover and purchases	Quarterly
Wholesalers' stocks	Quarterly
Catering and allied trades sales	Quarterly
Consumer credit grantors inquiry	Special inquiry

Exports of manufactured goods

Geoffrey Johnson Smith (East Grinstead) asked the Secretary of State for Trade what proportion of the United Kingdom's exports were in manufactured goods for the latest 12-month period for which figures were available; and if he would give the figures for the corresponding period during the last seven years.

Mr Meacher gave the following figures, based on seasonally adjusted data:

UK EXPORTS OF MANUFACTURED GOODS AS PROPORTION OF TOTAL UK EXPORTS (Overseas trade statistics basis)

	%
November 1969–October 1970	84½
November 1970–October 1971	85
November 1971–October 1972	85
November 1972–October 1973	84
November 1973–October 1974	82
November 1974–October 1975	82½
November 1975–October 1976	83
November 1976–October 1977	81½

Thursday, 24 November

British computer industry

Eric Moonman (Basildon) asked the Secretary of State for Industry, if he would make a preliminary statement on the proposed strategy for the British computer industry for the next five years.

Mr Cryer said that his department was in regular contact with the computer industry about the technical and commercial environment in which it operated, so that the emphasis of the various support schemes could be adjusted to meet changing requirements. He said that he also received advice from the NEDC computer sector working party and the requirements board for computers, systems and electronics and kept in touch with the NEB. There seemed to be general agreement that over the next five years peripherals and terminals, within the hardware sector, would continue to increase in importance and that there would be a growing emphasis on expertise in computer applications and systems software. Discussions were continuing on the specific actions which should be taken to reflect these findings.

New computer equipment

Eric Moonman (Basildon) asked the Secretary of State for Industry if he would institute a special fund for the allocation of new computer equipment in government departments to meet the information needs of the next decade.

Mr Williams replied that the acquisition of computer equipment for government departments was the responsibility of the Minister for the Civil Service. However, his department was in regular contact with the Civil Service Department about new developments in computer technology and their implications for government computing.

Manufacture of colour tv sets

Winifred Ewing (Moray and Nairn) asked the Secretary of State for Industry what representations he had received for or against manufacture of colour television sets in the United Kingdom by Hitachi; what reply he had sent; and if he would make a statement.

Mr Cryer said that the secretary of state had received many representations about the proposal by Hitachi to establish a colour television factory in Washington New Town. Ministers were consulting with the industry, trades unions and others, who had an interest in the proposal and it had been made clear that the government would not take a decision until these consultations had been completed.

UK imports of silk goods from Hong Kong

Mike Noble (Rossendale) asked the Secretary of State for Trade what was the level of imports of silk goods from Hong Kong in 1974, 1975 and 1976; and what was his forecast for 1977 and 1978.

Mr Meacher said that imports of silk clothing were not separately distinguished in the overseas trade statistics before 1976, and only a few items could be identified from then. He gave the following information:

£'000 c.i.f.

	1976 Year	1977 Jan-Sept
Silk fabrics	43	65
Silk dresses	23	15
Silk blouses	148	242
Silk scarves etc	37	22
Silk bed-jackets, slip-overs etc	—	37
Total of above	251	381

Imports of silk fabrics from Hong Kong in 1974 and 1975 were valued at £16,000 and £11,000 respectively.

Mr Meacher added that it was not possible to forecast the value of such imports for the rest of 1977 or for 1978.

Appointments by Secretary of State for Trade

Hugh Dykes (Harrow East) asked the Secretary of State for Trade if he would publish a list of all bodies to which he appointed members other than civil servants, distinguishing between full-time and part-time, salaried, fee paid and unpaid appointments, indicating for each category of appointment the number of such appointees.

Mr Clinton Davis, following his reply (*Official Report* 21 November 1977 vol 939 col 477) gave the following information:

	Full-time [1]	Part-time	Salaried	Fee paid	Unpaid
Advisory Committee for the National Film Development Fund	—	8	—	—	8
Advisory Committee on Historic Wreck Sites	—	7	—	—	7
Advisory Committee on Pilotage	—	13	—	—	13
Air Travel Reserve Fund Agency	—	7	—	—	7
British Airports Authority	3	4	7	—	—
British Airways Board	8	6	14	—	—
British Film Fund Agency	—	3	3	—	—
British Overseas Trade Advisory Council	—	47	—	—	47
British Overseas Trade Board [2]	—	16	—	—	16
British Tourist Authority	—	5	5	—	—
Cinematograph Films Council	—	22	1	—	21
Civil Aviation Authority	3	7	10	—	—
Distribution Statistics Advisory Committee	—	15	—	—	15
English Tourist Board	—	7	7	—	—
Export Guarantee Advisory Council	—	9	—	—	9
Insolvency Law Review Committee	—	12	—	—	12
Insurance Advisory Panel	—	17	—	—	17
Insurance Brokers Registration Council [3]	—	5	—	—	—
Interim Action Committee on the Film Industry	—	19	—	—	19
National Film Finance Corporation	1	4	5	—	—
Northern Lighthouse Board	—	1	—	—	1
Overseas Projects Board	—	11	—	—	11
Policyholders' Protection Board	—	9	—	9	—
Simplification of International Trade Procedures Board	—	1	—	—	1
Standing Advisory Committee on Patents	—	12	—	—	12
Standing Advisory Committee on Trade Marks	—	13	—	—	13

[1] All full-time Board members are salaried. [2] All the members are also members of the British Overseas Trade Advisory Council. [3] The Council has not yet met, nor has it been decided whether or not they will be paid.

Employment in the shipbuilding industry

David Mitchell (Basingstoke) asked the Secretary of State for Industry how many people were employed in the shipbuilding industry in each of the years 1973 to 1977; and if he would estimate the number of jobs which would be provided if cuts in the programme for Royal Navy shipbuilding were restored.

Mr Huckfield said that separate figures were not available for shipbuilding. The number of people directly employed in the shipbuilding and marine engineering industry in Great Britain were as follows:

1973 (as at end June)	177,000
1974 ,,	175,000
1975 ,,	174,000
1976 ,,	175,000
1977 ,,	174,000 (provisional)

Mr Meacher pointed out that there were of course also many other jobs in a number of industries which were dependent on a successful British shipbuilding industry. He said that he understood that no estimate was available of the effects on employment of the restoration of the cuts in the shipbuilding programme for the Royal Navy set out in the *Statement on Defence Estimates 1975 (cmnd 5976)*.

Friday, 25 November

Development area status

George Thompson (Galloway) asked the Secretary of State for Industry if he would now accord special development area status to the Wigtown District.

Mr Cryer replied that although he was not persuaded that it would be appropriate to make Wigtown a special development area, the Minister of State, Alan Williams, had offered to meet a delegation from the Dumfries and Galloway regional council to discuss the problems of the area.

New orders for UK ships

Alec Woodall (Hemsworth) asked the Secretary of State for Industry what was the total in gross tons of new orders by United Kingdom shipowners in the first nine months of the current year or up to the latest available date and the total new orders given by United Kingdom shipowners to United Kingdom shipyards.

Mr Huckfield said that the latest figures were in respect of the first six months of 1977, when new orders for merchant vessels for UK registration amounted to 248 thousand gross tons. Of this 243 thousand gross tons were placed with UK shipyards.

NEB north-east and north-west budgets

Kenneth Lomas (Huddersfield West) asked why the north and the north-west had been given new National Enterprise Board offices with unlimited budgets.

Mr Kaufman pointed out that the NEB (guidelines) direction of 17 December 1976 required the NEB to 'effectively discharge their employment responsibilities in areas of high unemployment, including action through regional offices in the north-east and north-west of England'. This reflected government undertakings during the passage of the Industry Bill. Offices were established in Liverpool and Newcastle in early 1976 for this purpose.

NEB director's pay

Michael Grylls (North West Surrey) asked what was the pay of Mr R. Dickinson, a director of the National Enterprise Board.

Mr Huckfield said that the pay of Mr J. L. Dickinson as a part-time member of the National Enterprise Board was £1,000 pa.

Motor industry forecasts

Bryan Gould (Southampton, Test) asked the Secretary of State for Industry what was his forecast for British car sales at home and abroad, assuming no further change in the exchange rate.

Mr Cryer replied that no official forecasts were published. The Motor Industry forecasts increased sales of British assembled cars of about 10 per cent in both home and export markets between 1977 and 1978.

Profit margins on skate-boards

Bruce George (Walsall South) asked the Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection, if he would refer to the Price Commission for investigation the profit margin on the sale of skate-boards.

Mr Maclennan replied that the Secretary of State had no current plans to direct the Price Commission to examine the prices of these products but would bear the suggestion in mind. Complaints about price increases made by individual firms should be directed to the Price Commission.

Inflationary spiral decline

Arthur Lewis (Newham North West) asked the Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection, on what date the inflationary spiral began to decline; what were the amounts of such falls to date; and if he would publish a detailed list of price increases made since this inflationary decline.

Mr Maclennan said that the annual rate of increase in the retail price index declined steeply from August 1975, falling from 26.9 per cent to 12.9 per cent in July 1976, when the decline was interrupted mainly in consequence of the fall in the pound. However, the decline was resumed in June this year, since when it had fallen from 17.7 to 14.1 per cent in October. On the listing of price increases he referred to the answer given in the Official Report of 24 November (vol 939, col 816).

Pilotage in the Thames

Sir Bernard Braine (South East Essex) asked the Secretary of State for Trade, what percentage of seagoing traffic, both British and foreign, entering the Thames and proceeding above Southend, was obliged to take on fully qualified and licensed pilots; and whether he was satisfied that the practice of permitting some ships entering the river for the first time without such qualified and licensed pilots does not constitute a risk to shipping.

Mr Clinton Davis said that the information requested in the first part of the question was not available and could only be obtained at excessive cost. The 1974 steering committee on pilotage recommended that exemptions from compulsory pilotage should be based principally on the competence of a ship's personnel as demonstrated by their holding pilotage certificates. This wider use of pilotage certificates, together with a review of the type of exemptions from compulsory pilotage referred to in the second part of the question had also been recommended by the Advisory Committee on Pilotage (ACOP). He said that he hoped that, in the interests of improving safety of navigation, legislation to implement the ACOP report will soon be brought before the house.

Advisory committee on pilotage

Sir Bernard Braine (South-east Essex) asked the Secretary of State for Trade if he had yet reached any conclusions about the recommendation of the Advisory Committee on Pilotage for the establishment of a Pilotage Board; and if he would make a statement.

Mr Clinton Davis said that he intended to accept the recommendation of the Advisory Committee on Pilotage on the appointment of Pilotage Commissioners. The advisory committee's report would provide the basis of pilotage legislation which he hoped to introduce as part of a merchant shipping bill in this session.

Technology news

European meteorological satellite launched

On the morning of 23 November, the European meteorological satellite, Meteosat, was successfully launched from the eastern test range, Cape Canaveral, Florida. The satellite was first injected into a transfer orbit then, at approximately 18.17 GMT, was 'kicked' into geostationary orbit by the on-board apogee boost motor.

The satellite is moving towards its station over the equator on the Greenwich meridian at an altitude of approximately 35 800 km. Its field of view will include the eastern part of South America, the whole of Africa, most of the Middle East and Europe south of 55 degrees latitude, including England and Ireland.

The British company Marconi Space and Defence Systems Ltd, a member of the GEC-Marconi Electronics group, was one of the principal companies involved in building the satellite, providing the attitude and orbital control system, the electrical ground support equipment and part of the communications package. The work was carried out at the company's sites in Portsmouth and Frimley. Meteosat was built for the European Space Agency by the Cosmos consortium of aerospace companies. It is to be one of a group of five international satellites giving world-wide meteorological coverage.

The satellite takes visible light and infra-red pictures of the earth's surface every 30 minutes, scanning line by line as it rotates at 100 rpm. Line-to-line shift is achieved by tilting the telescope. The picture obtained can be used direct by the ground station. However, for more precise definition and to render the data compatible with international APT (automatic picture transmission) and Wefax (weather facsimile) standards the picture can be processed on the ground and transmitted back to the satellite for retransmission to other stations.

The infra-red picture provides information on surface and cloud temperatures and hence cloud height, while the visible light picture shows cloud formation and enables wind velocity to be calculated with an accuracy of 3 metres per second by noting cloud movements. In addition, information collected from platforms, buoys, earth stations and satellites in low polar orbits can be retransmitted by Meteosat to any user, including sea-borne vessels, via Wefax. The five satellites will provide meteorologists with a continuously changing picture of world weather.

Production of hydrogen from leaves tested

Production of hydrogen by photobiological energy conversion is a principle adopted by Professor David Hall and Dr Krishna Rao (below) of King's College, London. Professor Hall and Dr Rao have built an artificial photosynthesis system in which chloroplasts from the leaves of spinach, tobacco and lettuce, etc, and hydrogenase (enzymes extracted from bacteria) in an aqueous medium are illuminated in a sealed vessel by a light with the intensity of about 11 000 lux. This permits the protons and electrons liberated from the water by the chloroplasts to re-combine to hydrogen by the action of the hydrogenase. Since the chloroplasts and hydrogenase can be used again and again, theoretically the system should continuously split water into hydrogen and oxygen. So far the experimental system has produced about a litre of hydrogen/hr/g of chlorophyll. Research is continuing to improve the stability of the system and the replacement of the biological components by synthetic material of a parallel performance.

Corrosion eats into profits

A seminar concerned with the avoidable costs of corrosion was held at the Albany Hotel, Birmingham on 29 November.

Examples were given of unexpected failures caused by corrosion, some with a quite simple cause, others complex; and of the sort of thinking and calculations of costs that should be adopted to avoid breakdown during the desired life of a product.

The seminar was one of a series organised by the Department of Industry through its committee on corrosion which believes that there is a great need to stimulate corrosion awareness among many sectors of British industry, especially those concerned with building and construction, engineering, power, transportation and water. The seminar was aimed at senior industrial management, chief designers, chief engineers and senior local government officers as well as many other key personnel in industry whose decisions could play a major part in cutting the costs of corrosion.

The role of advisory services available to industry, when particular problems require specialist attention, was described by Dr G. P. Rothwell, head of the National Corrosion Service.

Other one-day meetings will be held in London on 26 January and 12 April next year. Further details can be obtained from the Secretariat, Committee on Corrosion, Department of Industry, Room 540, Abell House, John Islip Street, London SW1, tel. 01-211 5996.

Pera process joins thermoplastics

A novel method of joining thermoplastic materials has been developed and patented by Pera, the Production Engineering Research Association. Known as the Peramelt process, it consists essentially of embedding a metallic gauze or perforated material into the surface of the materials to be joined. The reinforcement is embedded using heat and pressure which causes molten plastic to rise and fill the spaces in the reinforcement. On cooling, the plastic solidifies and locks the reinforcement in place.

Potential applications of the process include joining dissimilar materials or laminated thermoplastic materials, reinforcing areas of weakness or high stress in fabrications from plastics materials and repairing broken thermoplastic components. Careful control of the process permits the production of joints whose strength exceeds that of the parent material.

Most thermoplastic materials can be joined by the process, with the exceptions of fluorocarbons such as PTFE, which are unsuitable. It is ideally suited for repair work; fractures or cracks in 'difficult-to-bond' materials such as polyethylene and polypropylene can be easily repaired.

Further information is available from Pera, Melton Mowbray, Leicestershire LE13 0PB, tel. Melton Mowbray 4133.

European community news

Owen reports on foreign affairs council . . .

Negotiations for a trade agreement with the People's Republic of China will open following the agreement of a negotiating mandate at the foreign affairs council meeting held in Brussels on 21 November, said Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs Dr David Owen, reporting on the meeting to the House of Commons on 23 November.

The council also agreed, he said, that the Committee of Permanent Representatives should start work on a draft mandate for a renewed trade agreement with Yugoslavia and that negotiations should open for the second phase of the EEC-Cyprus agreement on agriculture.

Dr Owen said that there was broad agreement in discussion of the new regional development fund on the desirability of maintaining or increasing the fund's activity. It was not possible, however, to reach agreement on a number of outstanding points including the size of the fund in 1978, which would probably be discussed at the European council on 5 and 6 December.

The problems of the UK's and Irish budgetary contributions were discussed at a joint meeting of foreign and finance ministers.

The council had a general discussion on the serious crisis facing the European steel industry and agreed to return to the subject next month.

On fisheries, Dr Owen said that the council agreed that an attempt should be made to break the deadlock in fisheries negotiations with the Soviet Union by sending the Soviet government a list of community vessels which the community wished to be licensed to fish in the Barents Sea.

Dr Owen said that the council heard a report from the commission on the bilateral textile negotiations. The Secretary of State for Trade had emphasised the importance of adhering to the agreed mandate and of preparing the autonomous measures which will be necessary if the results of the bilateral negotiations are not satisfactory. The commission, he said, had confirmed that the mandate would be observed.

The council had discussed the preparations for the European Council meeting on 5 and 6 December and took note of a Danish statement on home rule for Greenland. The council also considered the development of the EEC-Association of South East Asian Nations dialogue.

The council agreed to approve an increase requested by the commission in the subsistence allowances for community staff and to prolong the secretarial allowances pending a decision on the staff regulation revision.

. . . and political co-operation

Reporting on the political co-operation talks Dr David Owen told the House of Commons that the nine foreign ministers had issued a joint statement on President Sadat's courageous initiative. 'We expressed the hope that his action would pave the way for an early resumption of the Geneva Conference and the negotiation of a comprehensive settlement,' he said.

On Africa, Dr Owen said that the ministers had discussed what further steps might be taken to ensure wider international acceptance of the code of conduct on employment practices for companies of the nine operating in South Africa; and the need to bring home to the South African government ministers' concern about the repression of dissent in the light of the United Nation's Security Council's recent mandatory arms embargo resolution. 'We issued a statement making clear that we would not recognise the so-called independence of Bophuthatswana', he said.

'My colleagues and I,' Dr Owen said, 'agreed that it was too early to make a judgement about the final results of the Belgrade Conference on security and co-operation in Europe follow-up meeting. We discussed the community position over follow-up meetings after Belgrade.'

More community news

Information on European community matters and about member states can often be found in other sections of *Trade and Industry*. For this week's additional news, turn to the following pages:

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Finance ministers discuss EMU

EEC finance ministers have agreed a draft directive on the co-ordination of laws to facilitate the setting up and pursuit of the business of credit institutions, Denis Healey, Chancellor of the Exchequer, said in reply to a parliamentary question on 24 November.

He was reporting on the meeting of EEC finance ministers held in Brussels on 21 November.

He said the council had adopted an annual report on the economic situation in the community with guidelines for each member state in 1978. The council had resumed a discussion, which it had initiated in October, of a number of proposals designed to achieve a greater degree of convergence and co-ordination between the economies of member states. Ministers had a preliminary exhange of views on a commission paper on the prospects for economic and monetary union, which it was proposed that the European Council should examine in December.

Mr Healey said the council also called for studies by the appropriate committees of proposals by the commission for better co-ordination of national economic policies, with a view to reaching decisions early in 1978.

During this part of the discussion, Mr Healey continued, the council had reached agreement in principle, subject to further detailed work, on a presidency proposal to increase the EEC medium-term credit facilities. The council also had taken note of a report by central bank governors on the adjustment of short-term credit mechanisms and noted that the governors would be reviewing this again in 1979. In view of the forthcoming meeting of the European Council, the council also held an exchange of views on a commission proposal for an EAU 1 billion borrowing and investment mechanism.

Finally, Mr Healey concluded, the council agreed in principle on the text of a directive laying down arrangements for mutual assistance of member states' tax authorities in the field by direct taxation.

Direct election bill given second reading

The government is against federalism but in favour of direct elections to the European assembly on the basis of exercising the existing assembly powers, said Brynmor John, Minister of State at the Home Office, opening the second reading debate of the European Assembly Direct Elections Bill on 24 November.

Many people, Mr John said, seemed to think that the fact of direct elections itself would lead inevitably and inexorably to a federal Europe. 'I just do not believe that direct elections are inevitable a step towards federalism any more than I believe that devolution is an inevitable step towards separatism,' he said.

On the subject of the powers of the assembly, Mr John said that the bill did not transfer powers to Strasbourg, or to Luxembourg. It merely determined how representatives should be chosen. The powers of the assembly, he said, were laid down by the treaty and in order to alter the treaty the unanimous consent of all nine countries was required.

Before the powers of the European assembly could be added to, Mr John continued, the British government would have to give their consent, and as the Prime Minister had made clear in his letter to the national executive council of the Labour party it was intended that any extension of the powers of the assembly would be effected in the UK by means of an act of parliament. There were, therefore, ample safeguards against any transfer that did not have the consent of parliament.

In closing his speech Mr John said that giving the bill a second reading 'is to take a single but significant step towards democratic control of the bureaucratic apparatus of the commission. In that way, I believe, that advantage will result for all of us'.

The bill was given a second reading by 381 votes to 98.

UK proposals for drivers hours put to commission

A reduction of half-an-hour in the maximum period between the start of the first duty and the end of the last duty of the day for passenger vehicle crews is proposed from 1 January 1978.

This was given in a written reply to a parliamentary question by William Rodgers, Secretary of State for Transport on 21 November.

In his reply Mr Rodgers stated that the council of ministers (transport) had adopted a number of permanent amendments to EEC regulation 543/69 and had also agreed a safeguard provision under which the commission could authorise a staged programme of up to three years for full implementation by the UK of the EEC régime.

Mr Rodgers said that the government had made the necessary application to the commission and in particular had proposed that the changes effective from 1 January 1978 should be limited to the following:

'The complete legislative framework of regulation (EEC) 543/69 will apply in place of existing national legislation. This will involve, *inter alia*, a reduction in the maximum period between the start of the first duty and the end of the last duty of the day for passenger vehicle crews from 16 to 15½ hours.

'Article 7—driving time
Daily: 10 hours
Weekly: 60 hours (a reduction of 10 hours for passenger vehicles)
Fortnightly: 118 hours (reduction of 12 hours for passenger vehicles and 2 hours for goods vehicles)
Continuous period: 5½ hours'

'Article 11—Daily rest period
Goods vehicles: full implementation
Passenger vehicles: 10 hours with 3 × 8½ hours

'Article 12: Weekly rest period (retaining the transport act definition of a "week")
Goods vehicles: add daily rest period to 24 hours rest
Passenger vehicles: 24 hours, not necessarily joined to a daily rest period with the exceptional possibility of one rest period of 24 hours in two weeks'

Valuation of goods re-imported after outward processing or repair

To harmonise community practice on the valuation of goods re-imported after process or repair in a third country a commentary on the application of the valuation provisions of the community's outward processing directive has been issued by the commission. For the UK this will entail a reduction in the amount of relief from customs duty given in respect of the temporarily exported goods.

Currently, relief on the temporarily exported goods is based on their fob export value plus packing, freight, insurance and all other charges incurred in respect of delivery to the processor's premises and a notional amount for such charges inwards.

However, for goods temporarily exported for outward processing or repair on and after 1 January 1978, relief will be based on the fob export value only. A revised notice 235 is being issued.

Exporting to western Europe

Because of a printing error the 'imports' and 'exports' in the diagram on page 3 of the special report in the 25 November issue of *Trade and Industry* were transposed.

Euroshoppers should learn from each other – Maclennan

There should be a central role for the EEC in the consumer learning process, said Robert Maclennan, Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection in Brussels on 23 November.

In the course of a speech to an international symposium on consumer information in which he gave details of the UK's activity in this area, Mr Maclennan said, that shoppers' in Europe should seek to learn from each other's experience.

'We are here to exchange ideas', he said, 'I see a central role for the EEC in this learning process. It is not a place to insist that one nation's approach is better than all others. Nor is it necessarily the best plan to find a solution that is immediately applicable to all. We must recognise the wide variations in our social, commercial and legal transactions'.

Mr Maclennan said that the central question of Europe was how member states combined to improve the quality of life for all their citizens. He was particularly concerned that standardisation should not be achieved simply by reference to the need for free trade between member states. That could lead, he said, to the least common denominator, which then became the maximum standard whether appropriate or not, whether it satisfied the needs of consumers or not.

'We need to proceed with sensitivity to the demands of consumers in each member state. I look forward to the consumer being more closely drawn into community discussions and decisions' Mr Maclennan concluded.

Alleged dumping of iron and steel tubes from Spain

Information has been received by the commission indicating that dumping is being practised or that bounties or subsidies are being granted in respect of imports of certain tubes of iron or steel (thin-walled in particular) (tariff heading ex 73.18 C) originating in Spain, and that this is causing injury to a community industry.

In conjunction with the member states, the commission has accordingly commenced examination of the matter at community level in accordance with council regulation (EEC) 459/68 of 5 April 1968 on protection against dumping or the granting of bounties or subsidies by countries which are not members of the European Economic Community, as amended by regulations (EEC) 2011/73 and (EEC) 1411/77.

Any information relating to the matter may be sent in writing to the commission of the European Communities, Directorate-General for External Relations, 200 rue de la Loi, 1049 Brussels.

Interested parties may, within 30 days of 18 November, make known their views in writing, in particular by replying to the questionnaire addressed to the parties known to be concerned and by providing supporting evidence.

Furthermore, the commission will hear parties directly concerned who so request when making known their views to the commission, provided they can show that they have an interest sufficient to entitle them to express their views more fully.

Duty on Taiwanese nuts

In the item published in *Trade and Industry*, 25 November, page 396, the first sentence of the fifth paragraph should read:
'This special duty which is in addition to the normal customs duties was imposed because it had been found that the Taiwanese had broken their undertaking to increase their export prices to the community.'

Transport and the total export concept

A report[1] from the Economic Development Committee for International Freight Movement points to a number of ways in which the UK's penetration of European markets is being damaged. The report, which was produced by the EDC's Through Transport Study Group, suggests that too often the export function is looked upon as primarily a matter of production and selling and that the importance of transport and distribution in the total export process is neglected.

Damage to the UK's European market performance is being caused by the gap between production and distribution management in manufacturing. This is one of the Economic Development Committee (EDC) report's main conclusions. The report also states that manufacturing industry and the government need to improve their understanding of how through transport revolution affects external trade.

Trade procedures and related information handling have a decisive effect on the speed, efficiency and reliability of delivery of goods to the buyer and payment to the seller says the report which also concludes that the complexities are a formidable barrier to improved export performance. This problem is seriously underestimated and, the report says, requires more attention by industry, transport operators and government.

The report makes 15 major recommendations (see box) intended to bring about improvements in the effectiveness of the freight-movement industry's service to manufacturing industry as well as indicating ways in which exporting concerns might make beneficial changes in their customary practices.

The EDC intends first to give a strong push to the adoption of the total export concept where the skills of production, marketing, distribution and customer servicing are integrated. The report suggests that, while transport is now a cost centre which few companies can afford to ignore or understimate, export sales can often be made before the related transport and delivery arrangements and the attendant costs of servicing stock warehosusing and credit are fully calculated. The report suggests that there is still a tendency to produce and sell first and think about movement later; physical distribution should enter into the long and medium-term planning of every export activity.

Follow-up activity

Steps have already been taken by the EDC to ensure a concerted programme of follow-up activity. In the first instance Lord Hayter, chairman of the EDC will be meeting with chairmen and presidents and senior staff of the organisations principally concerned with implementation of the recommendations to initiate the programme. In a number of cases implementation has already begun informally.

In the case of the proposals for the introduction of a scheme of liability insurance cover to protect exporters from errors committed by forwarders or haulage operators, their employees or sub-contractors, the EDC has appointed Fred Rose, deputy chairman of Gentransco and a leading member of the Institute of Freight Forwarders as chairman of a working party to produce detailed proposals.

The EDC aims to encourage the servicing of manufacturing industry and in this respect suggests a strengthening of the role of the British Shippers' Council (BSC). As a step in this direction the EDC, on which the BSC is represented, has specifically invited the BSC to look into proposals for strengthening the services to exporters.

Considerable impetus has been given to all the recommendations through the commitment of the many organisations represented on the EDC and its working parties. These include the Confederation of British Industry, the British Overseas Trade Board, the Institute of Freight Forwarders, Road Haulage Association, union representatives, the General Council of British Shipping as well as representatives of the ports, HM Customs, importers and air cargo.

Monitoring

The EDC intends to provide monitoring of its implementation proposals and will be creating machinery within the EDC for an annual review of trends affecting freight movement and manufacturing industry. It is expected that the National Ports Council will play a leading part in this development, which will build on the forecasting and analytical expertise which the NPC has created.

[1] Trading with Europe, price £1.00, £1.18 postage paid, from Nedo Books, 1 Steel House, Tothill Street, London SW1H 9LJ.

Improved freighting services: some of the recommendations

RECOMMENDATION 1
To secure the benefits arising from adoption of the total export concept, which integrates the skills of production, marketing, distribution and customer servicing, the following action is recommended: the institutions of the freight transport industry, government departments and representatives of manufacturing industry should follow up Export Year with a campaign, beginning with a national conference, to promote and publicise the role of through transport in relation to the total export concepts.

Among other factors attention should be paid to: the special relevance of the total export concept to the rapid and effective exploitation of the EEC; and BOTB, selected sector working parties and the EDC should together promote and evaluate joint ventures aimed at developing a total export approach, particularly among smaller companies wishing to improve their European penetration.

RECOMMENDATION 3
The British Shippers' Council (BSC) is invited to consider and make recommendations for improvements in the consultative arrangements for linking exporters, transport operators, forwarders and short sea operators and the effectiveness of communication with other related trade associations.

RECOMMENDATION 4
The relevant trade associations and government departments should together review, with particular reference to exports, distribution and transport, the present state of trade organisations, their representation and involvement in the UK's external trade and in the EEC.

RECOMMENDATION 5
In the context of the medium-term forecasts covering the volume and pattern of cargo movement to and from the UK, which the National Ports Council should be encouraged to continue to provide, the following steps are recommended:

In consultation with the EDC, the government should consider the medium-term prospects to see where investment priorities in transport resources and infra-structure may be needed; the freight transport industry, including the General Council of British Shipping and manufacturing industry, should report to the EDC on any features likely to affect the export strategy of manufacturing industry; the Departments of Trade, Industry and Transport and HM Customs should consider the medium-term developments in the EEC likely to affect UK trade/transport to and from Europe and report to the EDC.

RECOMMENDATION 6
The institutions of the freight transport industry, particularly the Institute of Freight Forwarders, Road Haulage Association and Freight Transport Association should consider the possibility of introducing certificated professional and trading membership as a prerequisite to international operation in the UK freight transport industry and such moves should be actively endorsed by industry and government.

RECOMMENDATION 7
Transport operators and forwarders should consider the problems of introducing methods of quoting firm forward rates and consider the steps to be taken to simplify and expedite the way in which quotations and charges are made up and subsequently make recommendations to the EDC.

RECOMMENDATION 8
A working party should be set up, consisting of the Institute of Freight Forwarders, Freight Transport Association, Road Haulage Association and British Shippers' Council and the insurance interests concerned to work out concrete proposals for the introduction into the UK of a feasible scheme of compulsory liability insurance covering shippers against errors committed by forwarders or haulage operators, their employees and sub-contractors.

RECOMMENDATION 9
The government should consider the implications of exchange control regulations for investment in transport infrastructures and the effect on the performance of UK concerns.

RECOMMENDATION 10
Trade associations and the transport and forwarding institutions involved in overseas trading, together with the banks and government, should take steps to accelerate the universal acceptance of a standard dictionary of trade delivery terms appropriate to through transport.

RECOMMENDATION 13
The Department of Transport, British Rail and the National Freight Corporation are asked to report to the EDC on: plans for ferry services; the international marketing structure for Freightliners and British Rail Ferries; the extension of British Rail services on to the continent and the investment priorities accorded to this; progress under section 8 of the Railways Act 1974.

RECOMMENDATION 14
The government should resolve as soon as possible the problems associated with EEC standard vehicle weights and dimensions and use its best endeavours to improve the regional spread and quantity of vehicle permits for EEC movements allowed to UK operators.

Tariff quotas – 1978

Tariff quotas provide for a limited amount of goods to be imported at a rate of duty below the normal rate. General information about the administration of tariff quotas may be found in customs notice 771 (obtainable from any customs house or office of HM Customs and Excise). Notices and articles are published from time to time in *Trade and Industry* when tariff quotas are opened or when increases have been made and also a notice is published at monthly intervals listing quotas which have been exhausted. Tariff quota information can be found in part 11 of HM Customs tariff.

Tariff quotas

Below are lists of tariff quotas (other than GSP tariff quotas) which, so far as can be seen at present, will be opened in 1978. The expected duty rates within the quotas are also given. Most of these tariff quotas will be opened for the EEC in accordance with council regulations. As the regulations for 1978 are at various stages of preparation, it is too early to say definitely whether there will be any changes to the EEC list (in particular any changes in the preferential arrangements for certain Mediterranean countries – see table 4) or precisely what the amounts of the individual tariff quotas will be. Importers may nevertheless find it helpful to have this indication of the likely position next year for the goods concerned. In nearly all cases the quotas run from 1 January. As explained in the article published in *Trade and Industry*, 9 September 1977, page 451, discussions have been in progress about details of the 'community's generalised tariff preference scheme (GSP) for developing countries' for 1978 and final details are not yet available although proposals by the EEC commission appeared in *Official Journal* C242, 10 October 1977. A notice will appear in *Trade and Industry* when final details are known stating where they may be obtained. The council regulations for tariff quotas are published in the *Official Journal of the Communities* after they have been approved by the council and it is hoped that most of these will be published in good time to give importers advance notice.

Allocation

In 1978 as in 1977 it is intended that qualifying imports shall be debited against tariff quotas (including GSP quotas) in the order in which any importer enters them for home use and claims relief from duty (customs notice 771 and amendments explains how claims should be made).

Inquiries

Inquiries about this notice should be addressed to General Division 2, Department of Trade, Room 333, Kingsgate House, 66-74 Victoria Street, London SW1E 6SJ.

Table 1 EEC global tariff quotas expected to be opened in 1978 for imports from all non-EEC sources

Tariff heading	Item	Expected duty within 1978 quota
01.02 A.II.b)2	Alpine and mountain cattle. (Two quotas which run from 1 July 1977 to 31 June 1978)[1]	Zero
03.01 A.II	Fresh eels (live or dead) chilled or frozen for curing, skinning or use in manufacture of products of heading 16.04 (quota runs 1 July 1977 to 31 June 1978)	Zero
08.04 B.I	Dried grapes in immediate containers of 15 kg or less	1.2%
38.08 A	Rosin including 'brais resineux'	Zero
ex 44.15	Certain plywood of coniferous species	Zero
48.01 A	Newsprint	Zero
ex 48.01 F		
50.02	Raw silk (not thrown)	Zero
50.04 B	Yarn wholly of silk not put up for retail sale	2.5%
50.05 B	Yarn of silk waste other than noil not put up for retail sale	1%
50.09	Woven fabrics of silk or noil silk woven on handlooms	Two quotas at zero duty for goods from Bangladesh, El Salvador, India, Laos, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Thailand and Indonesia
55.07, 55.09, 58.04	Certain woven fabrics of cotton and pile and chenille fabrics of cotton made on handlooms	
Chapters 50–57 and 58.04, 58.05, 58.07, 58.08, 58.09, 60.01	On the added value of processing of fabrics and yarns in these headings imported as provided for in the arrangements with Switzerland on trade in processing in the textile sector[2] (Quota runs from 1 September 1977 to 31 August 1978)	Zero
73.02 C	Ferro-silicon	Zero
73.02 D	Ferro-silico-manganese	Zero
73.02 E.I	Certain ferro-chromium (possibly including a quota for ferro-chrome with a high carbon content)	Zero
77.01 A	Unwrought magnesium (quotas for various grades)	Zero
	A variety of handicrafts falling under various tariff headings; when imported from certain countries. (India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Thailand, Philippines, Indonesia, Uruguay, Iran, Sri Lanka, Laos, Ecuador, Paraguay, Panama, El Salvador, Bolivia, Malaysia, Chile, Honduras and Peru)	Zero

Notes to tables 1 and 2
[1] There is no known trade in these goods. [2] There is no provision for the UK having a definite share in this quota and there is no known trade. [3] The UK will also participate in a tariff quota for frozen beef (which is in effect a levy free quota and not a quota for imports at a lower than the normal tariff). This quota is administered by the Ministry of Agriculture. [4] It should be noted that where under other preferential arrangements imports from particular third country sources qualify for duty-free treatment or a rate of duty as low as the quota rate, such imports will not be counted against 'global' or 'national' quotas.

Table 2 National tariff quotas expected to be opened by the UK in 1978

Tariff heading	Item	Expected duty within 1978 quota
Chapters 48 and 49	Paper and paperboard and certain printed matter from Efta non-candidate countries	Zero

Table 3 Two preferential tariff quotas for certain African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) countries and for overseas countries and territories of the EEC (OCTs)

Tariff heading	Item	Expected duty within 1978 quota
22.09 C.I	Rum, arrack and tafia (The quota periods runs from July of one year to June of the next)	Zero – ie only excise duty will be payable

Table 4 Preferential tariff quotas expected to be opened by the EEC in 1978 for certain Mediterranean countries

Country	Item	Tariff heading	Expected duty within 1978 quota
Algeria	Certain wines of designated origin: two quotas for wine in containers holding 2 litres or less and for wine in containers holding more than 2 litres. (The quota periods run from July of one year to June of the next)[1]	ex 22.05 C	Zero
Cyprus	Man-made fibres discontinuous or waste, carded, combed or otherwise prepared for spinning	56.04	Zero
	Men's and boys' outerwear	61.01	Zero
Greece	Wine of fresh grapes: grape must with fermentation arrested by the addition of alcohol[1]	22.05 A	6 ua/hl
		B	6 ua/hl
		Cla	1.8 ua/hl
		b	1.3 ua/hl
		IIa	2.1 ua/hl
		b	1.6 ua/hl
		IIIa 2	2.5 ua/hl
		b 3	2.1 ua/hl
		IVa 2	2.8 ua/hl
		b 3	2.8 ua/hl
		Va	0.2 ua/hl and per degree + 1.5 ua/hl
		b	0.2 ua/hl and per degree
Israel	Apricot pulp	ex 20.06 BIIc 1aa	11.9%
Malta	Stewed steak	16.02 BIIIb 1bb	Zero
Morocco	Prepared or preserved sardines	16.04 D	Zero
	Prepared or preserved sardines	16.04 D	10%
	Apricot pulp	ex 20.06 BIIc 1aa	11.9%
	Certain wines of designated origin: two quotas for wine in containers holding 2 litres or less and for wine in containers holding more than 2	ex 22.05 C	Zero

Table 4 *(continued)*

Country	Item	Tariff heading	Extended duty within 1978 quota
	litres. (The quota periods run from April of one year to March of the next)[1]		
Portugal	[1] Certain wines of designated origin: two quotas for wine in containers holding 2 litres or less and for wine in containers holding more than 2 litres	ex 22.05 CIIIa 1 ex CIVa 1 ex CIIIb 1 ex CIVb 1	5.4 ua/hl 5.8 ua/hl 5.5 ua/hl 6.0 ua/hl
Spain	Dried figs Dried grapes	ex 08.03 B ex 08.04 BI	3% Zero
	Certain wines of designated origin: two quotas for wine in containers holding 2 litres or less and for wine in containers holding more than 2 litres[1]	ex 22.05	The rates are expected to be 40% of the CCT for sherry wines in containers of 2 litres or less; 50% of the CCT for sherry wines in containers of more than 2 litres and Malaga wines in containers of 2 litres or less; and
			70% of the CCT for Tumilla, Priotato, Rioja and Valdepenas wines
Tunisia	Prepared or preserved sardines	16.04 D	Zero
	Apricot pulp	ex 20.06 BIIc 1aa	11.9%
Turkey	Hazelnuts	ex 08.05 G	2.5%
	Cotton yarn not for retail sale	55.05	Zero
	Certain cotton fabrics	55.09	Zero
	Certain carpets	ex 58.01 A	Zero

Notes to table 4

[1] Any excise duty is also payable. The conversion rate for UA's is obtainable from customs seats and local customs offices. [2] Tariff quotas have previously been opened for certain petroleum products (chapter 27) from Egypt and Turkey; certain cotton fabrics (55.09) from Egypt; certain cotton yarn (55.05), man-made fibres (56.04), certain outer garments (60.05) and certain men's and boys' outer garments (61.01) from Malta. From 1 January 1978 (1 July 1977 for Egypt – see *Trade and Industry* of 15 July 1977, page 70) it is expected that these tariff quotas will be superseded by arrangements under which these goods may be imported duty free within community ceilings. [3] **Cyprus new potatoes**: arrangements for 1978 are still under discussion in Brussels and it is not possible to anticipate the outcome. [4] There is a possibility that other preferential tariff quotas for certain items may be opened during 1978.

Review of CCT tariff suspensions in the agricultural and industrial sectors

The Department of Trade has been notified by the EEC commission that a review will take place early in 1978 of existing total or partial suspensions of the CCT (common customs tariff) which are due to expire on 30 June 1978. The goods affected are listed in council regulations (EEC) 1379/77 of 21 June 1977, tables II, III and IV (agricultural products) and 1345/77 of 21 June 1977, table III (industrial products). Details are also given below. Other suspensions due to come into force for the six months commencing 1 January 1978, and which will also be reviewed, will be the subject of a later notice. Unless any objections are raised it is the intention that all these suspensions should generally be maintained for a further period ending in most cases on 30 June 1979.

The department will wish to take account of UK interests in making its views known to the EEC before decisions are taken whether to continue the suspensions. UK producers of the goods in question or of like or competing products are entitled to object where they consider that they are able to supply the whole or the greater part of the needs of the community and that their interests would be adversely affected by the loss of protection involved in a suspension of the CCT. Those wishing to object should provide as much as possible of the following information:

1 estimated community (nine countries including the UK) demand in 1978 and 1979;
2 estimated UK demand in 1978 and 1979;
3 UK production expected to be available for:
  3.1 the UK market in 1978 and 1979;
  3.2 the rest of the Community in 1978 and 1979;
  3.3 exports to other countries in the same years.

This information should be sent in writing to the Department of Trade, General Division, Room 332, Kingsgate House, 66-74 Victoria Street, London SW1E 6SJ in time to arrive not later than 21 December 1977.

Inquiries: 01-215 3576.

CCT heading/Description	CCT suspended rate of duty
03.01 AIb) Salmon, fresh (live or dead), chilled or frozen	0
ex 03.01 BIc) Piked dog-fish (*Squalus acanthias*), fresh, chilled or frozen, whole, headless or in pieces	0
ex 03.01 BId) Sardines (*Clupea pilchardus Walbaum*), fresh, chilled or frozen, whole, of a length of 20 cm or more[2]	0
ex 03.01 BIg) Greenland halibut (*Hippoglossus reinhardtius*), fresh, chilled or frozen, whole, headless or in pieces	0
ex 03.01 BIq) *Sardinops sagax, sardinops ocellata* (pilchards), fresh, chilled or frozen, whole, headless or in pieces, intended for the processing industry	8
ex 03.01 BIq) Sturgeons, fresh, chilled or frozen, whole, headless or in pieces, intended for the processing industry	8
ex 03.01 C Roes, fresh, chilled or frozen	0
ex 03.02 AIc) Anchovies (*Engraulis spp*) salted or in brine, whole, headless or in pieces, in barrels or other containers of a net capacity of 10 kg or more	5
03.02 AIe) Salmon, salted or in brine, whole, headless or in pieces	4
ex 03.02 AIf) Sprats, salted or in brine, whole, headless or in pieces	0
ex 03.02 AIId) Fillets of saithe (*Pollachius virens or Gadus virens*), salted or in brine	7
ex 03.02 C Fish roe, salted or in brine	0
ex 03.03 AI Tails of crawfish, chilled or frozen, shelled or not	10
ex 03.03 BIb) Oysters, fresh (living), weighing no more than 12 g each	0
ex 03.03 BIb) Oysters, fresh (living), of the *Crassostrea gigas* variety, weighing more than 100 g each	0
ex 06.04 BI Natural Christmas trees unfit for replanting and branches of coniferous trees or holly for ornamental purposes[2]	0
ex 07.03 E Mushrooms, excluding cultivated mushrooms, preserved in brine, in sulphur water or in other preservative solutions, but not specially prepared for immediate consumption	0
ex 07.04 B Mushrooms, excluding cultivated mushrooms, dried, dehydrated or evaporated, whole or in identifiable pieces or slices, intended for the processing industry	0
ex 07.04 B Sweet red peppers, dried, dehydrated or evaporated, whole, cut or sliced, but not further prepared	0
ex 07.05 BI Beans dried, white, of the species *Phaseolus vulgaris*	0
ex 08.01 A Dates, fresh or dried, in immediate packings of a net capacity not exceeding 35 kg, for repacking for retail sale	0
ex 08.01 A Dates, fresh or dried, intended for processing other than for the production of alcohol	0
ex 08.09 Rose-hips, fresh	0
ex 08.10 A Bilberries (fruits of *Vaccinium myrtillus*), whether or not cooked, preserved by freezing, not containing added sugar	4
ex 08.10 B Blue-black fruits of the species *Vaccinium*, other than those of *Vaccinium myrtillus*, whether or not cooked, preserved by freezing, not containing added sugar	4
ex 08.10 B Cranberries (fruits of *Vaccinium vitis idaea*), whether or not cooked, preserved by freezing, not containing added sugar	0
ex 08.10 B Red or rose fruits of the species *Vaccinium*, other than those of *Vaccinium vitis idaea*, whether or not cooked, preserved by freezing, not containing added sugar	0
ex 08.10 B Rose-hips, whether or not cooked, preserved by freezing, not containing added sugar	0
ex 08.10 B Dates, frozen in immediate packings of a net capacity of 5 kg or more, not intended for the production of alcohol	0
ex 09.04 BI Paprika, ground, for use in animal feedingstuffs	0
09.10 CI Saffron, neither crushed nor ground	10
ex 16.04 AII Fish roes, washed, cleaned of adherent organs and simply salted or in brine	0
ex 16.05 A Crabs of the King, Hanasaki, Kegani and Queen varieties, simply boiled in water and shelled, whether or not frozen, in packings of a net capacity of 2 kg or more, intended for the processing industry	0
ex 16.05 A Crabmeat, excluding meat of the species *Cancer pagarus*, simply boiled in water, whether or not frozen, in packings of a net capacity of 2 kg or more, for repacking for retail sale	5
ex 16.05 B Shrimps and prawns, other than those of the Crangon variety, boiled in water and shelled, whether or not frozen, intended for the industrial manufacturers of products falling within heading 16.05	10
23.07 A Fish or marine mammal solubles	2
ex 28.04 CIII Tellurium powder	0
ex 28.38 C Potassium hydrogenperoxomonosulphate	0
28.51 A Deuterium, heavy water and other compounds of deuterium; hydrogen and compounds thereof, enriched in deuterium; mixtures and solutions containing these products (Euratom)	0

CCT heading/Description	CCT suspended rate of duty
ex 28.55 A	
Iron phosphides (ferro-phosphorous) containing 15 per cent or more by weight of phosphorus, for use exclusively in the manufacture of refined phosphoric iron or steel	0
ex 28.57 B	
Manganese nitride containing nor more than 8 per cent of nitrogen by weight	0
ex 29.01 CI	
Beta-Pinene	0
ex 29.01 DVI	
Vinyltoluenes	0
ex 29.02 AIIb)	
1,2,3-Trichloropropenes	0
ex 29.02 AIII	
Vinyl bromide	0
ex 29.02 AIII	
1,2-Dibromoethane	4
ex 29.02 B	
Hexachlorocyclopentadiene	0
ex 29.03 BII	
Nitromethane	6
ex 29.03 BII	
1-Nitropropane	8
ex 29.04 CI	
Butane-1,3-diol	0
ex 29.04 CV	
2,2-Bis(bromomethyl)propanediol	0
ex 29.06 AIV	
2-*tert*-Butyl-4-ethylphenol	0
ex 29.06 AIV	
2-Isopropylphenol	6
ex 29.06 BV	
1,1,3-Tris(5-*tert*-butyl-4-hydroxy-2-methylphenyl)butane	0
ex 29.08 AIIIc)	
Sodium 4-(2-methylallyloxy)benzenesulphonate	0
ex 29.08 D	
Bis(*alpha,alpha*-dimethylbenzyl) peroxide	0
ex 29.09	
1,2-Epoxybutane	7
ex 29.13 AI	
5-Methylhexan-2-one	0
ex 29.13 BIb)	
Refined natural camphor	0
ex 29.13 DI	
3-*beta*-Hydroxy-16-*alpha*-methylprega-5-en-20-one	6
ex 29.13 F	
1,4-Naphthoquinone	0
ex 29.13 GII	
Chlordecone (ISO)	0
ex 29.13 GII	
Dichlone (ISO)	0
ex 29.14 AIIc)4	
16-*alpha*,17-*alpha*-Epoxy-20-oxopregn-5-en-3-*beta*-yl acetate	6
ex 29.14 AIIc)4	
11-*alpha*,17-*alpha*,21-Trihydroxy-16-*alpha*-methyl-5-*alpha*-pregnane-3,20-dione 21-acetate 11-(toluene-4-sulphonate)	9
ex 29.14 AXI	
2,2'-Ethylenedioxydiethyl bis(2-ethylbutyrate)	0
ex 29.14 BIVb)	
Butyl perchlorocrotonate	0
ex 29.15 AIVa)	
Azelaic acid	0
ex 29.15 CIII	
Benzene-1,2,4-tricarboxylic acid	0
ex 29.15 CIII	
Benzene-1,2,4-tricarboxylic acid 1,2-anhydride	0
ex 29.15 CIII	
Tetrachlorophthalic anhydride	0
ex 29.15 CIII	
Benzyl phenylmalonates	0
ex 29.16 AII	
L-Malic acid and its salts and esters	0
29.16 AIIIa)	
Crude calcium tartrate	3.5
ex 29.16 BVI	
Octadecyl 3-(3,5-di*tert*-butyl-4-hydroxyphenyl)propionate	0
ex 29.16 BVI	
Sodium 5-(2,4-difluorophenyl)salicylate	0
ex 29.16 BVI	
Pentaerythritol tetra-3-(3,5-di*tert*-butyl-4-hydroxyphenyl)propionate	0
ex 29.16 D	
Dinoprostone (INN)	0
ex 29.22 EII	
1,8-Naphthylenediamine	0
ex 29.22 EII	
m-Phenylenebis(methylamine)	0
ex 29.23 AII	
(+)-4-Dimethylamino-3-methyl-1,2-diphenylbutan-2-ol	0
ex 29.23 AII	
Bis(2-dimethylaminoethyl) ether	0
ex 29.23 C	
Ketamine (INN) hydrochloride	0
ex 29.23 DV	
Tranexamic acid (INN)	0
ex 29.23 DV	
Sodium 2-cyclohexa-1,4-dienyl-*N*-(2-methoxycarbonyl-1-methylvinyl)glycinate	0
ex 29.23 E	
N-Benzyl-*N*-(3-hydroxybenzoylmethyl) methylammonium chloride	0
ex 29.23 E	
Methyldopa (INN)	0
ex 29.25 AII	
N-Acetyl-*DL*-valine	0
29.25 BIIa)	
5-Ethyl-5-phenylbarbituric acid (phenobarbital) and its salts	11
ex 29.26 AI	
ortho-Benziocsulphimide (saccharin) and its sodium salt	8
ex 29.27	
4-Bromophenylacetonitrile	0
ex 29.27	
(-)-*N*-(*alpha*-Cyano-4-hydroxy-3-methoxy-*alpha*-methylphenethyl)acetamide	0
ex 29.27	
2-(3-Phenoxyphenyl)propiononitrile	0
ex 29.29	
20-Hydroxyiminopregna-5,16-dien-3-yl acetate	0
ex 29.29	
(-)-2-(3,4-Dihydroxybenzyl)-2-hydrazinopropionic acid	0
ex 29.29	
1,3-Bis(4-chlorobenzylideneamino) guanidinium chloride	0
ex 29.31 B	
5-Fluoro-2-methyl-1-(4-methylthiobenzylidene)inden-3-yiacetic acid	0
ex 29.31 B	
N,N-Diethyl-2-mercaptoethylammonium chloride	0
ex 29.31 B	
Octadecyl (4-hydroxy-3,5-dimethylbenzylthio)acetate	0
ex 29.31 B	
4-(Methylthio)phenol	0
ex 29.31 B	
Thiophenol	0
ex 29.31 B	
Tolnaftate (INN)	0
ex 29.34 B	
O-Ethyl phenylphosphonochloridothioate	0 [3]
ex 29.34 B	
Dimethyltin dichloride	0 [3]
ex 29.34 B	
Trichloronat (ISO)	0 [3]
ex 29.35 Q	
2-Acetyl-1,4-butyrolactone	0
ex 29.35 Q	
Methyl 3-amino-5,6-dichloropyrazine-2-carboxylate	0
ex 29.35 Q	
4-Nitrobenzyl 7-amino-3-methyl-8-oxo-5-thia-1-azabicyclo[4.2.0]oct-2-ene-2-carboxylate and its salts	0
ex 29.35 Q	
2-Benzotriazol-2-yl-*p*-cresol	0
ex 29.35 Q	
2-Benzotriazol-2-yl-4-(1,1,3,3-tetramethylbutyl)phenol	0
ex 29.35 Q	
(-)-1-*tert*-Butylamino-3-(4-morpholino-1,2,5-thiadiazol-3-yloxy)propan-2-ol	0
ex 29.35 Q	
Amprolium (INN) hydrochloride	0
ex 29.35 Q	
1,4-Diazabicyclo[2.2.2]octane (triethylenediamine)	0
ex 29.35 Q	
2,4-Di*tert*-butyl-6-(5-chlorobenzotriazol-2-yl)phenol	0
ex 29.35 Q	
1-Ethyl-1,4-dihydro-4-oxo[1,3]dioxolo [4,5-g]cinnoline-3-carbonitrile	0
ex 29.35 Q	
Indometacin (INN)	0
ex 29.35 Q	
Diphemanil metilsulphate (INN)	0
ex 29.35 Q	
Minoxidil (INN)	0
ex 29.35 Q	
Orazamide (INN)	0
ex 29.35 Q	
(25*R*)-Spirost-5-en-3-*beta*-ol (diosgenin) and its esters	0
ex 29.35 Q	
Tiabendazole (INN) for the production of medicaments for human or animal use	0
ex 29.35 Q	
Triazolam (INN)	0
ex 29.36	
Quinethazone (INN)	0
ex 29.36	
Sulfaguanidine (INN)	0
ex 29.36	
Sulfathiazole (INN)	0
ex 29.38 BII	
Panthenol (INN)	0
ex 29.38 BIII	
Folic acid (INN)	0
ex 29.39 CI	
Serum gonadotrophin (INN)	0
ex 29.39 DII	
Betamethasone (INN) 21-acetate	0
ex 29.39 DII	
Triamcinolone (INN) acetonide	8
ex 29.39 DII	
Halcinonide (INN)	0
ex 29.39 DII	
Betamethasone (INN) 17,21-dipropionate	0
ex 29.39 DII	
Triamcinolone (INN) 16-*alpha*,21-diacetate	8
ex 29.39 DII	
Fluorometholone (INN)	0
ex 29.39 DII	
Triamcinolone hexacetonide (INN)	8
ex 29.39 DII	
Methylprednisolone (INN)	8
ex 29.39 DII	
Triamcinolone (INN)	8
ex 29.39 E	
Calcitonin (INN), porcine	0
ex 29.39 E	
Calcitonin (INN), salmon-type, and its salts	0
ex 29.39 E	
Calusterone (INN)	0
ex 29.39 E	
Prasterone (INN)	0
ex 29.40	
Bromelains (INN) [3]	0
ex 29.40	
Mixture of streptokinase (INN) and streptodornase (INN) [3]	0
ex 29.40	
Peroxidase [3]	0
ex 29.42 CVII	
Pilocarpine hydrochloride	0
ex 29.42 CVII	
Pilocarpine nitrate	0
ex 29.44 A	
Epicillin (INN)	0
ex 29.44 C and ex 30.03 AIIb)	
Amikacin (INN) and its salts	0
ex 29.44 C	
Amphotericin B (INN)	0
ex 29.44 C	
Sodium (7S)-3-carbamoyloxymethyl-7-methoxy-8-oxo-7-[2-(2-thienyl)acetamido]-5-thia-1-azabicyclo[4.2.0]oct-2-ene-2-carboxylate	0
ex 29.44 C	
Cefradine (INN)	0
ex 29.44 C	
Cefazolin (INN) and its salts	0
ex 29.44 C	
Minocycline (INN) *mono*-hydrochloride dihydrate	0
ex 29.44 C	
Clindamycin (INN) and its salts and esters	0
ex 29.44 C	
Spectinomycin (INN) dihydrochloride pentahydrate	0
ex 29.44 C	
Gentamicin (INN) and its salts	0
ex 29.44 C	
11-Hydroxy-6,7,10,12-tetramethyl-1-oxo-10-vinylperhydro-3a,7-pentanoinden-8-yl glycolate (pleuromutilin)	0
ex 29.44 C	
Lincomycin (INN) and its salts and esters	0
ex 29.44 C	
Monensin (INN) and its salts	0
ex 29.44 C	
Nystatin (INN)	0
ex 29.44 C and ex 30.03 AII b)	
Bleomycin (INN) sulphate	0
ex 29.44 C	
Sisomicin (INN) sulphate	0
ex 29.44 C	
Spectinomycin (INN) sulphate	0
ex 29.44 C	
Tobramycin (INN) and its salts	0
ex 29.44 C	
Tylosin (INN) and its salts	0
ex 30.01 AI	
Bovine livers for organotherapeutic purposes, dried and powdered	5
ex 30.01 B	
Lyophilised human albumin	0
ex 30.01 B	
Extract of liver of bovine animals	5
ex 30.01 B	
Extracts of suprarenal glands	0
ex 30.01 B	
Lyophilised gamma globulin derived from human blood	0

CCT heading/Description	CCT suspended rate of duty
ex 30.01 B The following substances derived from human blood: antihaemophilic globulin, anti-Rh_0(D)-globulin and plasmaproteins solution	0
ex 30.01 B Anti-D immunoplasma	0
ex 30.01 B Albumin in crude paste form derived from human blood	0
ex 30.01 B Human plasma	0
ex 30.01 B, ex 30.03 AIIb) and BIIb) Human albumin 20 per cent	0
ex 30.01 B, ex 30.03 AIIb) and BIIb) Human fibrinogen	0
ex 30.01 B, ex 30.03 AIIb) and BIIb) Preserved serum derived from human blood	0
ex 30.02 A Tetanus immunoglobulin	0
ex 30.02 A Anti-tetanus immunoplasma	0
ex 30.03 AIIb) and BIIb) Anti-haemophilic globulin and anti-Rh_0(D)-globulin derived from human blood	0
32.01 A Tanning extracts of wattle (Mimosa)	0
ex 32.01 D Tanning extracts of eucalyptus [3]	4
ex 32.01 D Tanning extracts derived from gambier and myrobalans [3]	0
ex 38.03 B Acid activated montmorillonite which, when examined by X-ray powder diffraction, shows four principal lines corresponding to crystal interplanar spacing (d values) of 0.44, 0.40, 0.33 and 0.25 nm, the line corresponding to 0.40 nm being the most intense	0
38.07 A Gum spirits of turpentine	3
38.07 B Spritis of sulphate turpentine; crude dipentene	3
38.07 C Spirits of wood turpentine; terpenic solvents produced by the distillation or other treatment of coniferous woods; sulphite turpentine; pine oil (excluding 'pine oils' not rich in terpineol)	3
ex 38.08 C Hydroabietyl alcohol	0
ex 38.08 C Rosin, hydrogenated, polymerised, dimerised or oxidised	4
ex 38.19 G Catalysts consisting of bis (2-dimethyl-aminoethyl) ether dissolved in 1,1'-oxydi-propan-2-ol	0
ex 38.19 G Catalysts consisting essentially of diphos-phorus pentaoxide on an inert support	0
ex 38.19 K Sintered magnesite mixed with small quanti-ties of mineral oils	0
ex 38.19 U Calcined bauxite (refractory grade)	0
ex 38.19 U Diosgenin, crude	0
ex 38.19 U Mixtures of aldehydes from lignin	0
ex 38.19 U Mixture of nitromethane and 1,2-epoxy-butane	7
ex 38.19 U Intermediate products from the manufacture of monensin salts	0
ex 38.19 U Mixtures of tertiary thiols	9
ex 39.01 A Colestipol (INN) hydrochloride	0
ex 39.01 CIII Reflection polyester sheeting, whether or not in rolls	0
ex 39.01 CIII Waste and scrap of polyester sheets coated with tungsten compounds	0
ex 39.01 CIII Film base, in rolls, of polyethylene terephthalate, for cinematography or photo-graphy (including radiography)	8
ex 39.01 CV Polyurethane pre-polymers in the forms men-tioned in note 3a to chapter 39, based on 4,4'-methylene di-(cyclohexyl isocyanate) or methyl-*m*-phenylene di-isocyanate and con-taining ether groups	0
ex 39.01 CVII Polyimide sheet and strip, whether or not in rolls	0
ex 39.01 CVII *alpha*-4-Hydroxybutyl-*omega*-hydroxypoly (oxytetramethylene)	0
ex 39.01 CVII Polyethylene oxide having a molecular weight of not less than 4 000 000	8
ex 39.02 CIII Polysulphohaloethylenes in one of the forms mentioned in note 3a and b to chapter 39	4
ex 39.02 CVI a) and b) Copolymers solely of allyl alcohol with styrene, which have an acetyl value of not less than 175	0
ex 39.02 CVIIb) Polyvinyl chloride sheeting, whether or not in rolls, of a thickness less than 1 mm and coated on one side with pressure sensitive adhesive in which are embedded small hollow glass balls having a diameter of not less than 50 and not more than 100 micrometres.	0
ex 39.02 CXI Polyvinyl butyral sheet of a width exceeding 200 cm, in rolls	0
ex 39.02 CXII Polyacrylic acid for use as a thickener in textile pigment printing pastes	0
ex 39.02 CXII Copolymerisation products of acrylic and methacrylic esters in the form of film of a thickness not less than 50 and not more than 150 micrometers, whether or not in rolls	0
ex 39.02 CXII Reflecting polyacrylic sheeting, whether or not in rolls	0
ex 39.02 CXIVa) Copolymer of ethyl acrylate with chloro-ethylvinyl ether, in one of the forms men-tioned in note 3b to chapter 39	12
ex 39.02 CXIVa) Alternating copolymers of ethylene and maleic anhydride for use as a thickener in textile pigment printing pastes	0
ex 39.02 CXIVa) Copolymer of vinylidene chloride and acrylonitrile in the form of expandable beads of a diameter not less than 4 and not more than 20 micrometres	0
ex 39.02 CXIVa) Copolymers of vinyl chloride with vinyl acetate and vinyl alcohol containing by weight not less than 89 per cent and not more than 92 per cent of vinyl chloride, not less than 2 per cent and not more than 6 per cent of vinyl acetate and not less than 4 per cent and not more than 8 per cent of vinyl alcohol, in one of the forms mentioned in note 3a and b to chapter 39	0
ex 39.02 CXIVb) Polyvinyl fluoride sheet, whether or not in rolls	0
ex 39.03 BIIb)2, BIIIb)4aa) and BIVb)4aa) Waste and scrap of photographic (including cinematographic) and X-ray film	0
39.03 BVa)1 Ethylcellulose, not plasticised	4
ex 39.03 BVa)2 Ethylhydroxyethylcellulose, insoluble in water	4
ex 39.03 BVa)2 Hydroxypropylcellulose	0
ex 41.02 B Bovine skins, chrome tanned in the moist state (wet blue)	0
ex 41.02 B Leather of East India kip, whole, whether or not the heads and legs have been removed, each weighing more than 4.5 kg net and not more than 8 kg, not further prepared than vegetable tanned, whether or not having undergone further preservative treatment with oil, but obviously unsuitable for immediate use in the manufacture of leather articles	0
41.03 BI Sheep- and lamb-skin leather, except leather falling within heading 41.06, 41.07 or 41.08, other, not further prepared than tanned	0
41.04 BI Goat- and kid-skin leather, except leather falling within heading 41.06, 41.07 or 41.08, other, not further prepared than tanned	0
41.05 BI Other kinds of leather, except leather falling within heading 41.06, 41.07 or 41.08, not further prepared than tanned	0
ex 44.22 Used casks and barrels of oak, whether assembled or not; their staves and heads [3]	0
ex 44.28 C Shingles for roofs and walls, of coniferous wood [3]	0
45.01 Natural cork, unworked, crushed, granulated or ground; waste cork	0
45.02 Natural cork in blocks, plates, sheets or strips (including cubes or square slabs, cut to size for cork or stoppers)	4
ex 49.11 B Microcopies on an opaque base intended for databanks and libraries	0
ex 49.11 B Artists' screen prints (commonly described as serigraphs), signed by the artist and num-bered from 1 to 200	0
ex 51.01 A Yarn wholly of polyglycollic acid	0
ex 51.01 A Yarn of polytetrafluoroethylene	0
ex 51.04 A Woven fabrics of polyvinyl alcohol fibres for machine embroidery	0
ex 54.03 BIa) Unbleached linen yarn (excluding yarn of flax-tow), measuring per kg 30 000 m or less, for the manufacture of multiple or cabled yarns for the footwear industry of for whip-ping cables	0
ex 56.01 A Synthetic textile fibres of aromatic poly-amides obtained by polycondensation of *m*-phenylenediamine and isophthalic acid	0
ex 58.01 B Carpets, carpeting and rugs of silk or of waste silk other than noil, of which the pile contains not less than 85 per cent by weight of silk or of waste silk other than noil	20, with a maximum of 4 u.a. per m^2
ex 58.07 A Braid wholly of polyglycollic acid yarn	0
ex 59.03 Bonded fibre fabrics and similar bonded yarn fabrics of aromatic polyamide man-made fibres produced by polycondensation of *m*-phenylenediamine and isophthalic acid	0
ex 59.04 Coir yarn for the manufacture of carpets, carpeting and rugs, mats and the like	0
ex 59.17 D Yarn of polytetrafluoroethylene, impregnated, whether or not oiled	0
62.03 AI Sacks and bags, of a kind used for the packing of goods, used, of jute or of other textile bast fibres of heading 57.03	2
ex 68.02 B Artificially coloured granules and chippings	0
ex 69.09 B Catalysts supports, consisting of porous cordierite ceramic pieces of roughly circular or oval cross-section with parallel sides, having an overall volume of not less than 240 and not more than 11 100ml, and having a minimum dimension of not less than 70 mm and a maximum dimension of not more than 480 mm, having not less than 28 continuous channels per 100 mm^2 running parallel to the main axis of symmetry, the total channel cross-section area being not less than 50 per cent and not more than 80 per cent of the whole cross-section area	0
ex 70.19 AIVb) Glass beads of a diameter of less than 0.1 mm and with a refractive index of 2.26	0
ex 70.20 A Mats of non-textile glass fibres with a diameter of not less than 3 and not more than 7 micrometres	0
ex 76.03 Aluminium alloy strip in coils containing not less than 18 per cent by weight and not more than 23 per cent by weight of tin and not less than 0.7 per cent by weight and not more than 1.5 per cent by weight of copper as the major alloying elements and having a width of not less than 75 and not more than 230 mm and a thickness of not less than 3 and not more than 6.5 mm	0
ex 81.02 B Molybdenum alloy sheets of less than 0.20 mm thick, containing not less than 98 per cent by weight of molybdenum, not less than 0.40 per cent by weight and not more than 1 per cent by weight of titanium and not less than 0.06 per cent by weight and not more than 0.20 per cent by weight of zirconium, as the major alloying elements	0
ex 81.04 DI Chromium, in the form of cathode chips or pellets which contains not more than 0.10 per cent by weight of total oxygen, not more than 0.015 per cent by weight of total aluminium, and not more than 0.001 per cent by weight of aluminium compounds insoluble in boiling 5N hydrochloric acid and in boiling fuming perchloric acid, and evaluated as aluminium, intended for the production of alloy for the manufacture of the following parts of gas turbines and jet engines [3]:	

CCT heading/Description	CCT suspended rate of duty
Blades, fixed or movable including their rings Vanes Nozzles	0
ex 81.04 KI Waste and scrap of titanium	0
ex 81.04 M Waste and scrap of uranium depleted in U 235	0
ex 84.17 C Straight-tube heat exchanger over 400 tonnes in weight and over 20 m long for nuclear reactors	0
ex 84.51 A Typewriters with Braille characters	0
ex 84.59 B Control-rod drives with spindle roller nut drive mechanism for nuclear reactors including the necessary special tools	0
ex 84.59 B Reactor pressure vessel consisting of the vessel shell, penetrated by primary coolant nozzles and core flooding nozzles, and of the vessel head	0
ex 84.59 B Integrally forged, rough-turned components with unit weights or more than 150 tonnes or outer diameters of more than 6 000 mm, for reactor pressure vessels	0
ex 85.13 B Sonic convertors consisting of a box approximately 28 cm long, approximately 13 cm broad and approximately 10 cm high, the top being shaped in the form of a cradle to receive a telephone handset, incorporating a lamp to indicate the state of call. This modem (modulator/demodulator) converts tele-printer keyboard signals for transmission by telephone line or radio for reconversion to keyboard signals on a distant tele-printer	0
ex 90.01 B Material consisting of a polarising film, supported on one or both sides by transparent material	0
ex 90.19 BII Reading appliances for the blind, in which a miniature camera using photo-transistors transmits letters onto a scanning board with piezo-electric pencils, and its parts and accessories	0

[1] Seasonal suspension for the six-month period ending on 31 March each year. [2] Seasonal suspension for the last quarter of each year. [3] With effect from 1 January 1978 these items will be reclassified in the CCT. Reclassification will not affect coverage of the suspension.

EIB loan for Scottish water supply and sewerage schemes . . .

A loan equivalent to £25 million (38.2 million units of account) has been granted by the European Investment Bank, to Lothian regional council in Scotland.

Provided for 15 years at an interest rate of 9 per cent, the funds will help to finance works being carried out to increase water supplies to Edinburgh and Midlothian and to reduce pollution in the Firth of Forth by major improvements to the Edinburgh sewerage system.

The first scheme, budgeted at £23 million, concerns the construction of a dam and 60 million m³ reservoir at Craigierig on the River Megget plus 50 km of aqueduct designed to increase the daily water supply capacity for the area by 50 per cent to over 300 000 m³ further development is foreseen which will add an extra 100 000 m³ per day.

The sewerage scheme, costing around £32 million, involves the construction of tunnelled mains along the east and west coast of Edinburgh to intercept sewage currently discharged directly into the Firth of Forth through short outfalls.

The sewage will be brought to a new treatment plant and, after removal of sediment, disposed of through a specially designed long sea outfall.

. . . and for UK water and power supply schemes

Three loans totalling the equivalent of £30.3 million (46.3 million units of account) have been granted by the European Investment Bank for water and power supply schemes in the UK.

The first, a £19.8 million loan has been provided to the National Water Council for 15 years at an interest rate of 9 per cent. The funds are being passed on to the North-West Water Authority to help to finance a series of works estimated to cost about £90 million; these are designed to increase by about 200 000 m³ per day available water supplies for the region, which includes Cheshire, Merseyside, Greater Manchester, Lancashire and Cumbria. Loans totalling £17.3 million were provided for the same works in February this year and in March 1976.

The second loan for £6.2 million has been provided to the National Water Council for 12 years at 8.75 per cent. This will be passed on to the Welsh National Water Development Authority to help to finance various supply projects and sewerage schemes in Gwent, mid- and south-Glamorgan. The works will cost about £31 million, towards which the EIB granted an earlier loan of £6.2 million in June this year and the third loan for £4.3 million has been granted to the South of Scotland Electricity Board (SSEB) for 12 years at 8.75 per cent; the loan will cover about half the cost of carrying out three schemes to reinforce electricity supplies in the Hamilton, Stirling and Ayr areas, involving erection of 25 km of transmission lines.

New EEC documents

This list of EEC documents was deposited in the House of Commons during the week ending 24 November. (Commission reference numbers are given in parentheses.) The documents are available for consultation at the European Communities Commission Information Office, 20 Kensington Palace Gardens, London W8 4QQ:

EEC draft instruments

R/2688/77 (COM(77)538 FINAL)
Proposal for a Council Regulation on the exchange rates to be applied for the purposes of the agricultural structures policy.

R/2700/77 (COM(77)545 FINAL)
Draft Council Regulation (EEC) increasing the Community tariff quota opened for 1977 by Regulation (EEC) 3010/76, for raw silk (not thrown) falling within heading 50.02 of the Common Customs Tariff.

S/1724/77 (COM(77)534 FINAL)
Proposal for a Council Regulation (EEC) amending Council Regulation (EEC) 1279/77 suspending the application of indicative ceilings established by Regulations (EEC) 3233/76, (EEC) 3234/76 and (EEC) 3235/76 for the imports of certain products originating in Austria, Finland, Norway, Portugal and Sweden.

S/1775/77 (COM(77)557 FINAL)
Proposal for a Council Regulation opening, allocating and providing for the administration of Community tariff quotas for certain textile products falling within heading 55.05 and 55.09 and sub-heading ex 58.01 A of the Common Customs Tariff, coming from Turkey (1978).

Consultative documents

R/2651/77 (COM(77)480 FINAL)
Report on the use of the European unit of account in the common agricultural policy.

R/2654/77 (COM(77)552 FINAL)
Proposal for transfers of appropriations between Chapters within the Commission's budget estimates for the financial year 1977 (Subsidies and financial contributions).

R/2489/77 (COM(77)512 FINAL)
Food aid: Commission proposals for the 1978 cereals, skimmed-milk powder and butteroil food aid programmes.

R/2674/77 (COM(77)541 FINAL)
Food aid: Aid project to supply skimmed-milk powder and butteroil via the WFP to India (1978 programme)—Operation FLOOD II.

R/2674/77 (COM(77)540 FINAL)
Food aid: Communication from the Commission on the importance of nutritional and developmental perspectives for dairy products in the third world.

S/1725/77 (COM(77)502 FINAL)
Reports on the use of the funds transferred for 1975 under the export earnings stabilisation system set up by the Lomé Convention.

R/2648/77 (SEC(77)3912)
Communication concerning the programme for the use of co-responsibility levy funds in the milk sector.

R/2720/77 (COM(77)564 FINAL)
Proposal for an estimate of young male bovine animals weighing 300 kg or less, intended for fattening, in the period 1 January to 31 December 1978.

New legislation

The legislation listed below has been published in the *Official Journal of the European Communities* as indicated against each item. The *Official Journal* is published in English and copies should be obtained from HMSO. Information about the items listed, in so far as other member states' requirements are concerned, is available to British exporters from Department of Trade, Export Services and Promotions Division, Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7HU, tel. 01-248 5757, ext. 7174/482/408.

Common agricultural policy

The texts of the following regulations and decisions which affect the various sectors in the EEC have been published in the *Official Journal of the European Communities*.

Oilseeds. Regulation (EEC) 2552/77 amending to 30 November 1977, for the marketing year 1977/78, the time limit set out in article 9(1) of regulation (EEC) 1799/76 for submitting crop declarations for seed flax. (*Official Journal* L296, 19 November 1977).

Wine. Regulation (EEC) 2531/77 amending article 4(1) of regulation (EEC) 1594/70 as regards the acidification of certain wines and wine products. (*Official Journal* L294, 18 November 1977.)

Decision 77/720/EEC authorising Germany, France, Luxembourg and the United Kingdom to permit under certain conditions an additional increase in the alcoholic strength of certain wines and certain products intended for wine making. (*Official Journal* L296, 19 November 1977).

Animal health. Decision 77/717/EEC concerning health protection measures in respect of the USSR. This decision requires that member states shall prohibit the importation of live pigs and of fresh pigmeat from the Soviet Union. (*Official Journal* L293, 17 November 1977).

Customs regulations

Regulation (EEC) 2530/77 amending article 5 of regulation (EEC) 375/69 on the declaration of particulars relating to the value of goods for customs purposes. (*Official Journal* L294, 18 November 1977).

Overseas trade news

Aid programme leads to £14m orders in October

British industry received over £14 million in October from orders following grants and loans to developing countries made by the Ministry of Overseas Development under the aid programme and administered by the Crown Agents.

Among the largest contracts accepted for financing in October, including earlier contracts now accepted for reimbursement from aid funds were: radio telephones and aerials for Bangladesh (£294,589) from Pye Telecommunications, Cambridge; cotton-spinning plants for Bangladesh (£2,892,012) from Platt Saco Lowell Ltd, Accrington; coal-face mechanisation equipment for India (£1,512,059) from Dowty Mining Equipment, Ashchurch, near Tewkesbury; and two lighterage tugs for Pakistan (£1,012,500) from Richard Dunston Ltd, Hessle, Humberside.

Bilateral aid policy

Judith Hart, Minister for Overseas Development, has decided to allow a small proportion of the bilateral aid programme (around 5 per cent) to be available to give higher priority to the commercial importance of a limited number of developmentally sound projects which the ministry might identify in developing countries for which there was no allocation available under the aid framework, or where the allocation was already fully committed.

Scottish mission to Iraq

Allen A. Denton-Miller, chairman and managing director of Scotconsult Ltd, is to lead the first trade mission from Scotland to Iraq. The 15-member mission has been organised by the Scottish Council (Development and Industry) and will fly to Baghdad on 1 December for a seven-day visit arranged in association with the British Overseas Trade Board and with help in the planning stages from the Iraqi government.

Although British exports to Iraq (our fifth biggest Middle East market last year) have increased substantially from £23 million in 1973 to just over £150 million last year, Britain has dropped from first to fifth place in the league table of foreign suppliers to Iraq.

Mr Denton-Miller said that Iraq offers very considerable prospects for Scottish companies, with a current annual investment of around £5 billion and substantial long term development proposals for industry and agriculture. The mission is intended to forge closer trading links between Scotland and Iraq and to identify new opportunities for Scottish companies.

Toy and handicraft fair in Singapore

Manufacturers of toys and handicraft goods will have the opportunity in 1978 of meeting major groups of buyers and distributors in the south-east Asia and Pacific region when the international toy and handicraft fair, 'Toycraft 78' is held at Singapore from 12 to 16 October 1978.

'Toycraft 78' is expected to create opportunities for the development of many forms of business deals such as agency/distributor arrangements, joint ventures or licensing arrangements for local manufacturers, as well as for direct purchases on a large scale. The fair is being organised by the Singapore company, MeComm Private Ltd, and has the support of the Singapore Tourist Promotion Board. For further information contact Fairs and Exhibitions Ltd, 21 Park Square East, Regents Park, London NW1 4LH.

UK-Austria double taxation convention signed . . .

A protocol amending the dividend article in the double taxation convention between the United Kingdom and Austria was signed in London on 17 November 1977. The protocol is subject to approval by the House of Commons. The text of the signed protocol will be published in due course as a schedule to a draft order in council.

. . . UK-Sweden discussion resumed

Discussions at official level were resumed in Stockholm during the week beginning 14 November between the United Kingdom and Sweden about a new double taxation convention covering taxes on estates of deceased persons and on gifts, to replace the existing death duties convention. A draft of a proposed new convention was initialled and will be submitted to the respective governments for approval.

ECGD guarantees £5m credit for Poland . . .

ECGD has guaranteed a £5 million line of credit which National Westminster Bank has made available to Bank Handlowy w Warszawie SA of Poland. The loan will enable Polish buyers to place orders in the UK for capital goods and associated services. UK exporters will receive 85 per cent of the contract price from the loan, the remaining 15 per cent is payable from the buyers' own resources.

To qualify under the terms of the loan a contract must have a minimum value of £25,000 and be placed by November 1978. Exporters interested in this facility should contact Mr T. Anthony of ECGD, tel. 01-606 6699 ext. 7574 or Mr C. J. Cheesman of National Westminster, tel. 01-588 6122.

. . . and £4.5m for Czechoslovakia

Export Credits Guarantee Department has guaranteed a £4.5 million loan which National Westminster Bank has made available to Ceskoslovenska Obchodni Banka AS of Czechoslovakia.

The loan will help finance a £5.3 million contract awarded by Polimex-Cekop Spolka ZOO of Poland to Polibur Engineering Ltd of Manchester for the procurement and supply of equipment from UK exporters for a plant producing cyclo-hexanane, a chemical used in the production of nylon, at Strazske, Czechoslovakia. Pelimex-Cekop is the main contractor for the project. The plant is scheduled for commissioning in late 1981.

ECGD statutory return

The Export Guarantees Act 1975 as amended is the principal legislation under which the Export Credits Guarantee Department (ECGD) operates. In insuring new UK investment overseas against certain non-commercial risks it operates under the Overseas Investment and Export Guarantees Act 1972. The report to end September 1977 (below) lists commitments under the 1975 act as amended, and under the 1972 act.

COMMITMENTS UNDER THE EXPORT GUARANTEES ACT 1975 AS AMENDED BY THE INTERNATIONAL FINANCE, TRADE AND AID ACT 1977

New guarantees and liabilities in quarter ended 30 September 1977

The aggregate amount of new guarantees issued involving sterling liabilities under the 1975 act amounted to: £763 million under section 1, £143 million under section 2(1); and the aggregate amount of new liabilities incurred

UK businessmen going overseas

British businessmen intending to travel overseas are urged in their own interests to make the earliest possible contact, before going abroad, with the Export Services and Promotions Division of the Department of Trade (at the appropriate regional office for firms outside London, and Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7HU for firms in London and the South East of England). The department, in co-operation with commercial officers at embassies, high commissions and consulates overseas, is in a position to provide advice when it is required, and to help, where appropriate, in making trade contacts related to the purpose of the visit. Even where a businessman does not require specific assistance it is valuable for him to meet the commercial officers to get up-to-date information about the market. The Department of Trade would therefore welcome receiving notification of any businessmen intending to travel overseas. To enable the overseas commercial officers to be of the greatest assistance to UK visitors the department needs to be able to brief the overseas officers as fully as possible. The range of information required for this purpose includes details of the firm, their products/services and the purpose and background to the visit.

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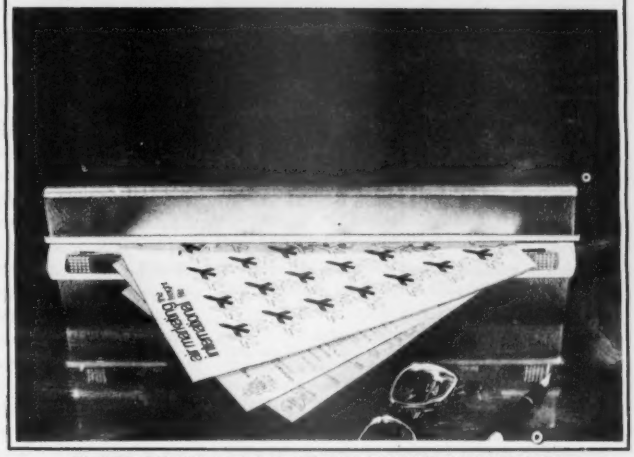

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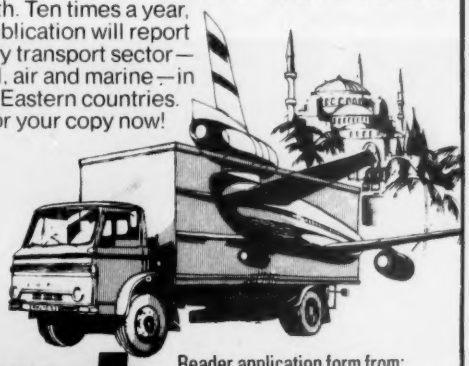

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JAPAN

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under section 5 of the act was £22 million: a total of £928 million.

The aggregate amount of new guarantees involving foreign currency liabilities amounted to: SDR 25 million under section 1 and, SDR 334 million under section 2(1): a total of SDR 359 million.

These represent ECGD's maximum liabilities under new guarantees issued during the quarter. The continuing validity of many gurarantees issued prior to the quarter is not reflected here, but is covered in the liabilities totals below.

Amounts recorded against ECGD's statutory limits as at 30 September 1977

Total outstanding sums recorded against the sterling limit of £25,000 million under section 6 amounted to £19,529 million.

The following items are taken into account:

1 Liabilities in respect of guarantees under section 1 – £11,924 million.
2 Liabilities in respect of guarantees under section 2(1) – £5,470 million.
3 Amount of principal monies due under arrangements made under section 2(2) – nil.
4 Amount of principal monies outstanding in respect of loans made under section 3(1) – £2,184 million.
5 Sums paid in respect of securities acquired and for the time being held under section 4 – £160 million.
6 Liabilities in respect of arrangements made under section 5 – £43 million.

The aggregate of 1 to 6 above will exceed the total liability to the extent that guarantees to banks may have been given under a different section from the related credit insurance guarantees.

Total outstanding sums recorded against the SDR limit of 10 000 million SDR under section 6 amounted, after revaluation, to SDR 428 million.

The following items are taken into account:

1 Liabilities in respect of guarantees under section 1 – SDR 91 million.
2 Liabilities in respect of guarantees under section 2(1) – SDR 337 million.
3 Amount of principal monies due under arrangements made under section 2(2) – nil.

Notes

Guarantees are given under section 1 after consultation with the Export Guarantees Advisory Council. Guarantees under section 2(1) are those given in the national interest.

Section 2(2) enables ECGD to provide financial facilities (eg to make payments to match foreign competition on unusual credit terms and to enter into foreign currency loans should the need arise).

Section 3(1) enables ECGD to refinance banks which make finance available on special fixed interest rates for exports sold on credit terms of two years or more.

Section 4 enables ECGD to make finance available to acquire, hold and dispose of securities. This was used to provide aid loans before this function was transferred to the Ministry of Overseas Development.

Section 5 enables ECGD to give cost escalation cover.

OVERSEAS INVESTMENT AND EXPORT GUARANTEES ACT 1972

Liabilities in quarter ended 30 September 1977

During the quarter the aggregate amount of liabilities incurred was £1.6 million. This represents ECGD's maximum liabilities under agreements entered into during the quarter.

Amounts recorded against ECGD's statutory limit as at 30 September 1977

Total outstanding sums recorded against the limit of £250 million under section 2(4) of the 1972 act amounted to £65 million.

CCCN from next January

The Customs Co-operation Council Nomenclature (CCCN) formerly known as the Brussels Tariff Nomenclature (BTN) is an international standard system for the classification of goods in customs tariffs. It classifies all goods within some 1100 defined headings which are arranged in 99 chapters grouped within 21 sections. Each heading is identified by a four digit code number of which the first two figures indicate the chapter and the remainder show the order of the heading within the chapter. Classification within the headings is governed by a series of legal notes to the sections and chapters and by the 'Rules for the interpretation of the nomenclature'. Subheadings may be introduced into national tariff nomenclatures provided that the subdivisions cover products classified in the relevant CCCN heading and do not modify the main structure or coverage of the chapter.

The Customs Co-operation Council has recommended various changes to the nomenclature to be introduced from 1 January 1978 to take account of technological developments and changes in the volume of international trade in certain products and to rectify anomolies which have come to light since the last major amendments were introduced on 1 January 1972.

The changes may be divided into two broad categories:

1 Those which amend the wording of the nomenclature (to make its meaning clearer) but which do not affect the classification of any goods.

2 Those which give rise to a change in the classification of goods from one heading to another. These are explained in the following paragraphs.

Certain headings (ie four figure headings of the UK tariff) will be deleted and the goods at present classified in those headings will be incorporated in other headings shown in the table.

Deleted heading	Products transferred to heading number	Deleted heading	Products transferred to heading number
05.06	05.15	44.11	44.09
05.10	05.09		44.28
05.11	05.09	46.01	46.02
11.03	11.04	48.02	48.01
11.06	11.04	48.06	48.07
12.05	12.08	48.09	44.11[2]
13.01	14 05	48.17	48.16
14.04	14.05	50.06	50.05
15.09	15.17	50.08	50.07
15.14	15.15	50.10	50.09
17.05	17.01	53.13	53.12
	17.02	57.05	57.07
	17.03	57.08	57.07
	21.07	57.09	57.11
19.01	19.02	57.12	57.11
19.06	19.07	59.09	59.12
21.01	21.02	61.08	61.11
25.09	25.32	67.05	Re-classified according to constituent material
25.25	25.32		
25.29	25.32		
27.05	27.04		
28.07	28.13	68.05	68.04
28.11	28.13	70.02	70.01
28.26	28.28		70.03
28.33	28.30	73.28	73.27
	28.31	73.39	73.38
	28.32	74.09	74.19
28.34	28.30	74.12	74.11
	28.32	74.13	74.19
28.41	28.48	74.14	74.15
28.53	28.58	76.13	76.16
29.17	29.21	76.14	76.16
29.18	29.21	77.03	77.02
29.20	29.21	79.05	79.06
29.32	29.34	82.10	82.09
29.40	35.07[1]	83.10	83.09
32.02	32.01	83.12	83.06
33.02	33.01	84.04	84.05
33.03	33.01	86.01	86.03
33.05	33.06	92.09	92.10
36.03	36.04	95.01	95.05
36.07	36.08	95.02	95.05
37.06	37.07	95.03	95.05
38.02	38.03	95.04	95.05
38.04	38.19	95.06	95.08
38.10	38.09	95.07	95.08
41.07	41.02	96.02	96.01
	41.03	96.03	96.01
	41.04	96.04	67.01
	41.05	98.13	Re-classified according to constituent material
44.06	44.28		
44.08	44.22		
44.10	44.09		

[1] This is a new heading created to cover the following goods 'Enzymes; prepared enzymes not elsewhere specified or included'.

[2] The goods formerly covered by this heading have been transferred elsewhere (see table). Heading 44.11 will cover the following goods 'Fibre building board of wood or other vegetable material, whether or not bonded with natural or artificial resins or with other organic binders'.

Reciprocal ships' survey agreement with the People's Republic of China

Lloyd's Register and the Register of Shipping of the People's Republic of China signed an agreement on ships' technical survey and classification in London on 16 November. Feng Hsi-chou, deputy chief of the survey division of the Register of Shipping of the People's Republic of China, and W. T. Leadbetter, secretary of Lloyd's Register of Shipping, were the signatories.

The agreement makes it possible, under certain circumstances, for ships classed with either classification society to be surveyed by the other society.

Signing of the reciprocal survey agreement

The nomenclature has not been renumbered to fill the gaps in the four-digit code numbers caused by the deletion of headings and consequently the numbering systems within chapters will no longer be continuous.

In the following cases the specified products will be transferred to existing main headings to put them with products with which they have similar characteristics.

Present heading number	Products being transferred to heading number	
28.18	Magnesium oxide	25.19
38.19	Plant-growth regulators	38.11
67.04	Artificial hair of man-made fibres put up as 'wefts'	67.03
85.15 } 85.22 }	Non-magnetic television image and sound recorders or reproducers	92.11
85.15 } 85.22 }	Parts of non-magnetic television image and sound recorders or reproducers	92.13
85.20	Electrically ignited photographic flash-bulbs and parts and accessories	90.07
87.13	Invalid carriages (other than motorised or otherwise mechanically propelled)	87.11
	Parts of invalid carriages (other than motorised or otherwise mechanically propelled)	87.12

The provision in note 2 of section XI whereby yarns and fabrics containing more than 10 per cent by weight of silk, noil or other waste silk or any combination thereof have been classified in chapter 50, is being deleted. Such yarns and fabrics will therefore be classified according to the textile material which predominates by weight over any other single textile material; silk, noil or other waste silk being considered as a single textile material.

The provisions in note 3 of section XV whereby alloys of base metals containing more than 10 per cent by weight of nickel have been classified in chapter 75, except in the case of an alloy in which iron predominated by weight over each of the other metals, has been deleted. Alloys containing nickel will therefore be classified in the same way as other non-ferrous metals, ie as an alloy of the metal which predominates by weight over each of the other metals.

The common customs tariff (CCT)

The EEC council decided on 14 June 1977 that the changes recommended by the CCC should be accepted for application as from 1 January 1978 (council decision 77/412/EEC *Official Journal of the European Communities* L149 17 June 1977, page 17). The consequences of adopting these changes have been considered in detail and a number of amendments will be incorporated in the CCT at 1 January 1978.

Origin

The origin rules of the EEC preferential trading agreements and generalised system of tariff preferences, which are related to four digit tariff headings, will be adjusted as from 1 January 1978 to take account of the changes to the CCC nomenclature, in order that goods which now qualify for preference under the existing rules should continue to qualify. These adjustments will be made as amendments to lists A and B of the existing rules. It is difficult however to assess precisely the effect of the CCC nomenclature changes on the origin rules and traders are asked to inform the Department of Trade, General Division 2C if they find that any product which qualified for preference under the existing rules fails to qualify under the amended rules as from 1 January 1978.

Other countries' tariffs

We have no information as yet about the effect the adoption of these amendments will have on classifications and rates of duty in the tariffs of other countries who use the Customs Co-operation Council nomenclature. Since one of the purposes of the changes is to remove anomalies created by differing classification practices in different countries there may be instances where other countries classify products which are the subject of amendment in headings other than those which currently apply in the European community. There may also be cases where they currently classify the products in the heading now confirmed by the change as appropriate. Exporters are advised to make inquiries as necessary, through their agents, in those countries which use a CCC nomenclature form of tariff.

As and when new tariffs (or amendments) are received from overseas countries OTAR will, as usual, issue notices through the Export Intelligence Service and *Trade and Industry*. Notices will give the address and telephone number of OTAR (Overseas Tariffs and Regulations Section), Export Data Branch, Export Services and Promotions Division, Department of Trade, Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7HU, tel. 01-248 5757, together with a contact point to which inquiries can be made.

Further information concerning the effects of these changes may be obtained from the following addresses:

Are you interested in exporting your goods?

international
STORE BUYERS GUIDE
to Britain ltd

A unique way of introducing your company to overseas buyers.

It is the only authoritative guide of its kind to list details of CONSUMER GOODS ONLY.
It is the only guide of its kind to be sent FREE OF CHARGE throughout the world, direct to buyers of leading Department Store Groups, Mail Order Houses, Chain Stores, Distributors, Wholesalers and Buying Houses, as well as International Commercial Reference Centres.

Make sure your company is listed

The International Store Buyers Guide represents a lowcost way of presenting your company and its products to a world wide market.

For further details contact:

International Store Buyers Guide to Britain Ltd.,
29/31 Oxford Street, London W1 Tel: 01-242 9529

ENCIRCLE TI 699 ON PAGE 479 FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

CCT rates of import duty: Department of Trade, General Division 2A, Room 310, Kingsgate House, 66-74 Victoria Street, London SW1E 6SJ. Tel. 01-215 5488/5542.
Origin rules: Department of Trade, General Division 2C, Room 322, Kingsgate House, 66-74 Victoria Street, London SW1E 6SJ. Tel. 01-215 5750.
Other countries' tariffs: Department of Trade, Overseas Tariffs and Regulations Section, Export Data Branch, Export Services and Promotions Division, Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7HU. Tel. 01-248 5757.

UK tariff: country code changes 1978

From 1 January 1978, the amendments listed below will be made to the country codes shown in the list of recognised designations of countries published in part 3B(vii) of the UK Tariff and Overseas Trade Classification (Tariff). While these changes will be incorporated in the tariff for 1978, some late amendments will not be included in customs notice no. 37 until it is reprinted for 1979.

Country changes 1977/78

Deletions

Code	Country	Notes
FX	Continental shelf (foreign part)	Now reallocated to: Continental shelf (NW European)
FB	Continental shelf (United Kingdom part)	
AI	French Territory of the Afars and Issas	Now reallocated to: Jibuti (formerly French Territory of the Afars and Issas)

Additions

Code	Country	Notes
	Continental shelf (NW European):	
ZU	United Kingdom sector	
ZB	Belgian sector	Formerly continental shelf (United Kingdom part) and continental shelf (foreign part)
ZD	Danish sector	
ZF	French sector	
ZG	German sector	
ZE	Irish sector	
ZH	Netherlands sector	
ZN	Norwegian sector	
AI	Jibuti (formerly French Territory of the Afars and Issas)	Formerly French Territory of the Afars Issas (now Jibuti)

Other

Code	Country	Notes
AG [1]	Antigua; St Christopher (St Kitts) – Nevis and Anguilla; Montserrat; British Virgin Islands	Inclusion of '(St Kitts)'
BJ	Benin (formerly Dahomey)	Change of alpha code from DY
CF	Central African Empire	Formerly Central African Republic
CG [1]	Congo	Formerly Congo (Brazzaville)
NO [1]	Norway, Svalbard (including Spitsbergen) and Jan Mayen	Formerly Norway, Svalbard (including Spitsbergen) and Jan Mayen Islands
SC [1]	Seychelles	Formerly Seychelles and Dependencies

[1] These amendments may not actually be incorporated in the tariff until during the month of January 1978.

Inquiries about these changes may be addressed to HM Customs and Excise Statistical Office, Portcullis House, Victoria Avenue, Southend on Sea, Essex SS2 6AL, tel. 0702 49421.

UK-GDR trade talks

The fourth session of the UK-GDR Joint Commission was held in East Berlin from 14 to 18 November. The joint commission met under the joint chairmanship of Lionel Lightman, under-secretary at the Department of Trade, and Christian Meyer, director general at the GDR Ministry of Foreign Trade. The British delegation included industrial representatives from the chemical, construction and automotive industries, as well as government officials.

The joint commission reviewed the general development of trade and economic industrial, technological and scientific co-operation between the UK and the GDR in the period since its last meeting in November 1976. It agreed that despite the considerable increase in the volume of trade during the last 12 months, there remained still greater opportunities for the expansion and diversification of trade. Both delegations reaffirmed the determination of their governments to achieve the target agreed upon by Mr Dell and Herr Soelle (GDR Minister of Foreign Trade) in February at least to double UK-GDR trade by 1980. And it was agreed that this should be regarded as a minimum target.

The joint commission reaffirmed the importance it attached to the fullest possible exchange of information on trade and related matters and the extension of contacts between UK companies and corresponding GDR organisations. It also agreed that the successful conclusion of contracts currently under negotiation would contribute to the development of longer-term relations. It further agreed that there were particularly promising prospects for industrial co-operation in the fields of metallurgy, electronics, chemicals and chemical engineering, raw material processing and glass and ceramics.

The next meeting of the joint commission, which meets annually in London and East Berlin alternately, will be held in London during the fourth quarter of 1978.

Hints to business men

Revised editions of the booklets on the Federal Republic of Germany and West Berlin, New Zealand, and Sri Lanka have been published in the *Hints to business men* series. British business men who intend visiting these countries on export business can obtain copies of the booklets from Export Services and Promotions Division, Department of Trade, Room D 05, Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7HU, tel. 01-248 5757 ext. 7145/6 or any regional office of the Department of Industry.

Advertisements are accepted for all booklets in the series which covers over 100 countries. Inquiries about advertising should be addressed to Cheiron Press Ltd, 8/10 Parkway, London NW1 7AD, tel. 01-267 1285.

Coping with successful tourist market

Leonard Lickorish, British Tourist Authority's director general, told a gathering of British travel interests in New York on 15 November that traffic from the United States to Britain rose from 1975 to 1976, and predicted an even steeper climb to 1 800 000 visitors in 1977. Noting the meeting's theme 'Success in '78—Can we cope?', he told the gathering that the urgent task was to improve marketing. Mr Lickorish strongly stressed the importance of co-operative marketing between BTA and private firms as a way of increasing promotion in the United States market.

Lewis Roberts, BTA's director of marketing (north America), gave as BTA's priority the promotion of Britain's heritage.

Rutgers van Brunt, president of the travel division, Martiz Inc, the largest firm selling incentive travel to Britain gave a blunt warning. He said his company was practically dropping Britain as an incentive travel destination in 1979.

USSR trade conference

The London chamber is organising a conference on trading with the USSR on 14 December, which is directed towards companies at the initial stage in their approach and executives in established companies with recent appointment of responsibility for the USSR.

Four Soviet speakers from the trade delegation of the USSR in the UK, including Mr E. F. Manakov, head of the USSR trade delegation, Mr V. P. Pavlov, deputy trade representative, Mr V. G. Yelizarov, head of economic department and a representative of Moscow Narodny Bank. A number of British speakers will complement talks by Soviet panellists from a British point of view. Each talk will be followed by a question and discussion period.

For further information telephone London Chamber of Commerce and Industry, 01-248 4444 ext. 307/37.

Cryptic initials explained

Explanations of cryptic initials like CECC and ECE are given in an updated version of the leaflet *Short guide to international organizations concerned with standards*, published by the British Standards Institution. This contains not only the key to baffling initials but also concise notes on the history, aims and activities of the organisations to which they relate. Some 50 abbreviations are listed covering Europe, the Commonwealth and the United Nations amongst others.

Copies of this leaflet may be obtained by sending a 7p stamp to Miss M. A. Allan, British Standards Institution, 2 Park Street, London W1A 2BS. Up to five copies will be sent free of charge. Bulk orders can also be met by arrangement.

EXPORT YEAR NEWS

8

Export Year is sponsored by:
The Association of British Chambers of Commerce
The British Overseas Trade Board and its Advisory Council
The Committee on Invisible Exports
The Confederation of British Industry
The Institute of Export
The Trades Union Congress

Duke of Kent to chair major conference

His Royal Highness the Duke of Kent, Vice-Chairman of the British Overseas Trade Board, is to chair a major Export Year conference at the Metropole Hotel, National Exhibition Centre on 24 January next year. This important event will bring together management and shop-floor representatives from companies throughout the country. They will examine the achievements of companies who have been taking part in Export Year, and consider what lessons can be learnt for the future.

The Duke is leading a distinguished group of participants at the conference. Among those who are expected to take part are Jack Jones, John Greenborough, Sir Frederick Catherwood, Sir Francis Sandilands, Lord Limerick and Lord Luke.

Professor Bob MacKenzie will illustrate, through television-style presentations, how five companies have benefited by taking part in Export Year. The companies—Reckitt & Colman, Vickers, British Rail Engineering, Thomas Meadows and Actair International—represent a cross-section of British industry, capital, consumer and service industries and large and small employers.

Those interested in attending the conference should, in the first instance, contact Brian Cowie, British Overseas Trade Board, Monsanto House, 10–18 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET, tel. 01-215 4075/4307.

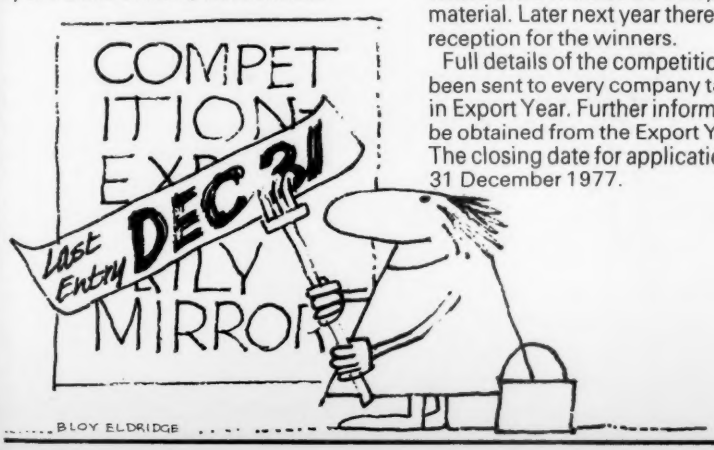
The cost per delegate is £25, including lunch.

Competition backed by "Daily Mirror"

The sponsors of Export Year, in association with the *Daily Mirror*, are organising a competition to judge the best in-house material produced by companies, and their employees, for Export Year. A panel of judges, chaired by the Duke of Kent, will consider material submitted in three categories—an Export Year display, an Export Year feature, and an individual contribution from an employee.

The Duke of Kent will present the awards at the Export Year Conference, where there will also be a display of material. Later next year there will be a reception for the winners.

Full details of the competition have been sent to every company taking part in Export Year. Further information can be obtained from the Export Year Office. The closing date for applications is 31 December 1977.



Van Heusen collars the market

What is a Van Heusen ? To an Egyptian it's a collar, like a Hoover is a vacuum cleaner. Many of the people at Van Heusen's factories who have never been to Egypt know this, because every month an export bulletin has been distributed throughout the company's factories, and export staff have taken time off from their usual work to give talks to staff about the firm's exports.

The results of all this have been startling. Frank Moss, the company's enthusiastic Export Year organiser—when he's not occupied with his full-time job of company shipping manager—described to *Export Year News* recently how the quality of the firm's shirts has improved as a result of Export Year.

Joyce Raymond, a clerical worker at Van Heusen, was the winner of a company competition for Export Year. She is seen here, with her husband, centre, enjoying her prize—a visit to a major trade show in Paris

"There's no doubt," he said, "and the production staff agree, that the quality of the finished product is even better than it was a year ago."

Not only has quality improved for Van Heusen as a result of Export Year. The company is on target for overseas sales this year of no less than £3M-worth of shirts—an 18 per cent increase in volume compared to last year.

NOTICE BOARD

Pin this on your company notice board

"Building on the success of Export Year"– Sir Frederick Catherwood

Sir Frederick Catherwood speaking at an open day at transmission manufacturer Borg-Warner, celebrating 21 years of business in the UK with an Export Year theme

This is the last edition of *Export Year News*, or rather the last which can appear within the Year. As Chairman of the British Overseas Trade Board I am glad to have this opportunity to congratulate the editorial staff of *Export Year News* on the success of the publication.

We had hoped that perhaps 1000 companies might join in a national campaign designed to tell their whole workforces more about companies' overseas trading aims and successes and that this would help everyone to see the link between successful trading overseas and job security and prosperity in this country. In the event, we have done far better, with over 2400 firms.

In the Year, the volume of exports will have increased well over our 10 per cent target and we have also, as we aimed to do, achieved a balance of payments surplus.

With this success behind us, we face a rising demand that in some form the campaign should continue.

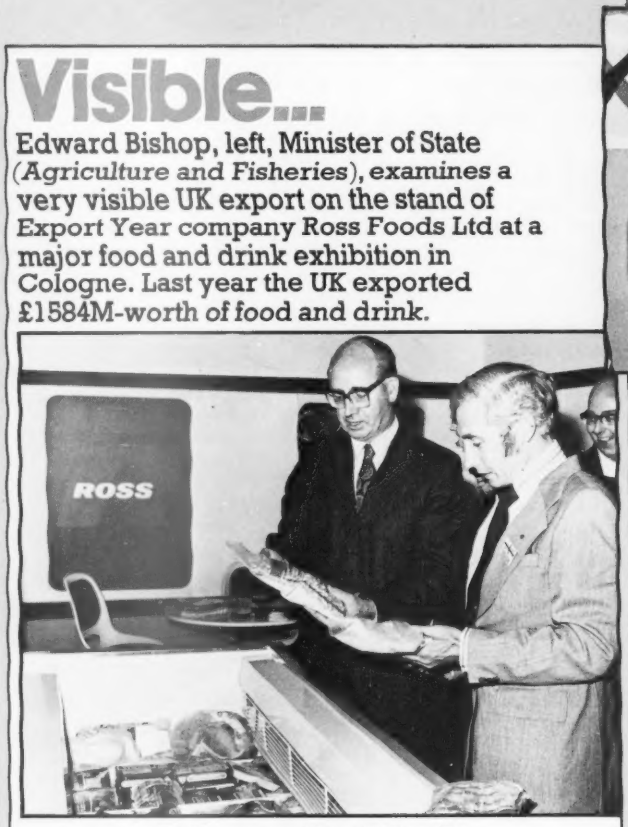
The Board would like to do this and I am sure we can.

As a first step, the Vice-Chairman, HRH the Duke of Kent, will chair the Export Year Conference at the Metropole Hotel in Birmingham on 24 January. You will be hearing more of this, but I hope that many of *Export Year News*' readers will be there helping us to find ways of keeping up and building on the success of Export Year.

—Sir Frederick Catherwood, Chairman of the British Overseas Trade Board

Visible...

Edward Bishop, left, Minister of State (*Agriculture and Fisheries*), examines a very visible UK export on the stand of Export Year company Ross Foods Ltd at a major food and drink exhibition in Cologne. Last year the UK exported £1584M-worth of food and drink.



and invisible

Seen promoting Britain's vital invisible exports in Brazil is Export Year patron Sir Francis Sandilands, left, flanked by Sir Jasper Hollom, Deputy Governor of the Bank of England, listening to a question at a major conference organised by the Committee on Invisible Exports and the British Overseas Trade Board in São Paulo.

More on-target activities

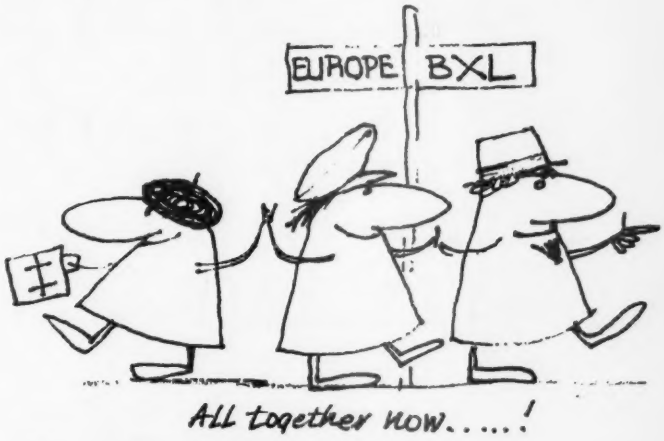
Five hundred employees of Wigan company Gullick Dobson were taken to the International Mining Exhibition at Birmingham to see the company's large display—and the overseas competition. A fleet of coaches brought 2500 Racal employees to London for the Group's Racalex '77 exhibition of latest products.

● Export broadcasts on factory loudspeakers are being given at Rabone Chesterman, in Birmingham. A new company slogan, "For factory and country to stay alive, We must maintain our export drive," is heading Export Year bulletins posted throughout the factory, and has been painted on the side of company vehicles.

● Union representatives and export and distribution staff from A E Auto Parts went round a local container base. "The visit was of inestimable value to our Export Year efforts," said the company's commercial manager.

● One of the smallest companies taking part in Export Year is Glastonbury Prints, which with a staff of 30 produces and exports hand-coloured prints of birds, animals and flowers. A lot of interest was shown by staff in a small export display which was taken to a dinner dance for staff and families. The display was later put in the company's shop window in Somerset.

● Major overseas customers and distributors are visiting the Croydon plant of BXL to tell employees about the importance of exports, and the problems of their particular markets. A Netherlands distributor told a cross-section of employees: "I am a strong believer in partnership, and I am sure that the idea of Export Year for Britain and BXL is positively good."



● Brown Brothers (Overseas) Ltd used Export Year as a theme for various trade exhibitions, and overprinted the Export Year posters for use at no less than 80 display points throughout the company.

Warm welcome at Rugby

One of the most attractive welcomes Roy Earnshaw, the Export Year Adviser, has received during his visits to companies throughout the country during the Year was at the Ceramics Division of Smiths Industries in Rugby. Six Export Year tee-shirted girls lined up at Rugby Station to greet him from the train. Karen Jones was one, seen here with two of Smiths export staff, and Roy Earnshaw, left.

"I have visited every part of the country, and been privileged to call on hundreds of companies during Export Year," he said, "and I am delighted at the way firms everywhere have gained by taking part in Export Year."

EXPORT YEAR NEWS

"Shouldn't management make the Export Year special communications effort a permanent part of its managerial style?"
—*The* Sunday Times, *6 November 1977*

Export Year Patrons:
HRH The Duke of Kent
The Rt Hon Edmund Dell MP
Jack Jones
Lord Limerick
Lord Luke
Sir Francis Sandilands
Lord Watkinson

Export Year News,
Editor: Peter Beckingham,
Export Year Office,
British Overseas Trade Board
1 Victoria Street,
London SW1H 0ET
Tel: 01-215 5773

Contest is a success

The competition is hotting up as the search continues for the country's first Export Year Expert. Contestants throughout the country have been facing a series of gruelling questions set by the Institute of Export, which is organising the competition on behalf of the sponsors of Export Year.

"The regional heats and finals have been a far bigger success than we ever dared anticipate," says Arthur Day, the Institute's Director-General. "Everything looks set for a very demanding final.

"The competition can't but do good if it helps draw attention to the need for total professionalism in a company's export department.

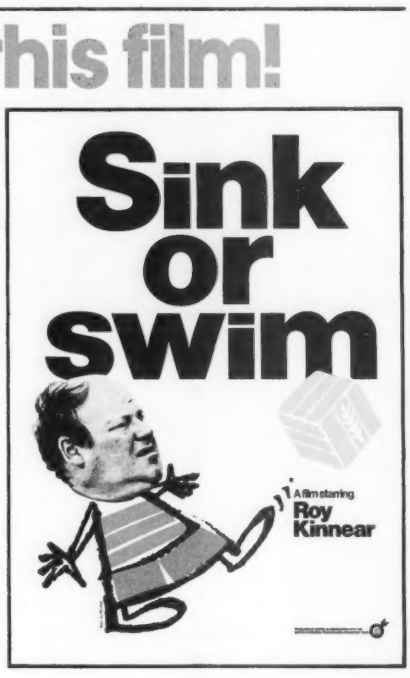
"Judging from the comments we have received so far, it seems likely that it will have a snowball effect and may become a major national function within a couple of years."

This year's eventual winner will receive a cheque for £500 and be presented with a trophy by the Duke of Kent at the Export Year Conference next January.

Don't miss this film!

" 'Sink or Swim' is a good industrial film. It puts over clearly, as well as humorously, the vital message that exports mean jobs. I hope that companies throughout the country will show it to their staff as part of their export drive. It deserves to be widely used and should help to ensure that the impetus of Export Year is maintained long after it officially ends in December."

Jack Jones



For further information, cut out this coupon and return it to Ken Troy, EMI Films Ltd, Film House, 142 Wardour Street, London W1V 4AE, tel. 01-437 0444.

Please send me further details of "Sink or Swim"

Name _____

Company _____

Address _____

_____

Tel. _____

Keep sending your export stories

Many companies want the impetus of Export Year to be maintained after the year ends in December. This is one of the conclusions of a survey conducted among 60 firms in Greater Manchester by Derek Cracknell, Chairman of the local branch of the Institute of Export.

"There was a generally held opinion by over 80 per cent of the companies that as the campaign had got off the ground, to drop it would be to lose whatever had been gained," the survey states.

To help maintain the impact of the Year a new publication by the BOTB, to provide a continuing medium for news, is planned. So companies shouldn't stop sending in their stories.

Sussex firms receive Export Year awards

Manufacturers of cider, toys, tapes and cooked chicken products are among the 16 companies that have received Export Year Awards from the Federation of Sussex Industries. The Federation organised the award scheme to let the country see the contribution Sussex firms make to the balance of payments. So much interest was created that now the Federation's Director, Nora Potter, is proposing to make the Awards an annual event.

Humberside seminar

The local Export Year committee in Humberside, under its Chairman Harold Yates, a director of Reckitt & Colman (Overseas) Ltd, is arranging a seminar to point up the achievements of local firms in Export Year. Sir Frederick Catherwood, Chairman of the British Overseas Trade Board, and Roy Earnshaw, Export Year Adviser, are the guest speakers.

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MARKET REPORT: SOUTH OF FRANCE

Where pleasure is business but they don't mix

Times are changing in the south of France. Tourism and agriculture remain the primary activities, but in recent years there has been a new emphasis on heavy industrial development. In the fifth in our series of regional market reports on France, the British consulate-general in Marseilles explains what this could mean for the British exporter.

A view of the Isola 2000 skiing complex near Nice, developed by SAPSI, a subsidiary of Bernard Sunley Investment Trust.

Phrases like 'the south of France', 'the Côte d'Azur', 'on the Riviera' and 'the man who broke the bank of Monte Carlo', evoke vivid impressions commonly held in Britain of sun, sea, holidays and luxurious living. There is of course much more to the two southern regions of France and the Principality of Monaco which comprise the commercial responsibilities of the British consulate-general at Marseilles.

Bordered by Spain to the west and Italy to the east, the Midi occupies more than a quarter of the total French coastline and is made up of two regions: Languedoc-Roussillon and Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur, as well as Corsica. There are over 5½ million inhabitants in the area, consumers all.

With 2800 hours of sunshine a year, the south of France has the classical Mediterranean climate. Tourism, viticulture and agriculture are the basis of primary economic activities. Natural resources of coal to the north, good water to the west, and bauxite, led to the setting up of general manufacturing industries, while the port of Marseilles and its immediate vicinity became a focus of shipbuilding and ship-repair, with other industries devoted to the processing and shipment of the products of the French colonial empire, and of its supply lines for manufactured products.

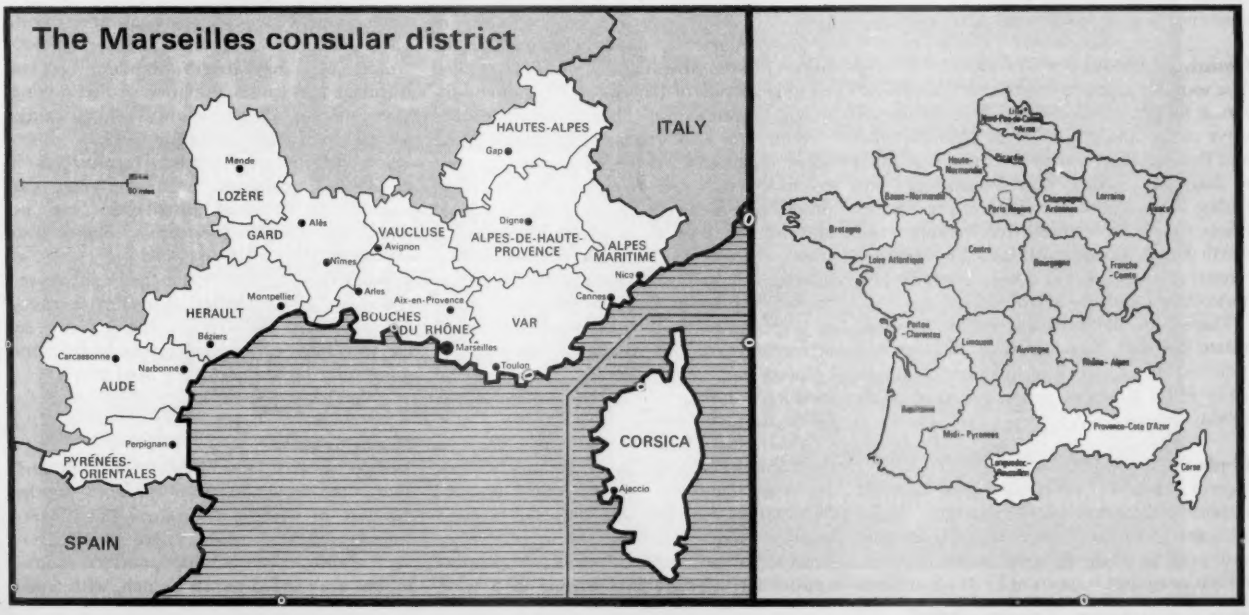
In recent years, throughout the Midi, there has been a new emphasis on industrial development, culminating in the achievement of the Fos industrial/port complex situated between Marseilles and the Camargue.

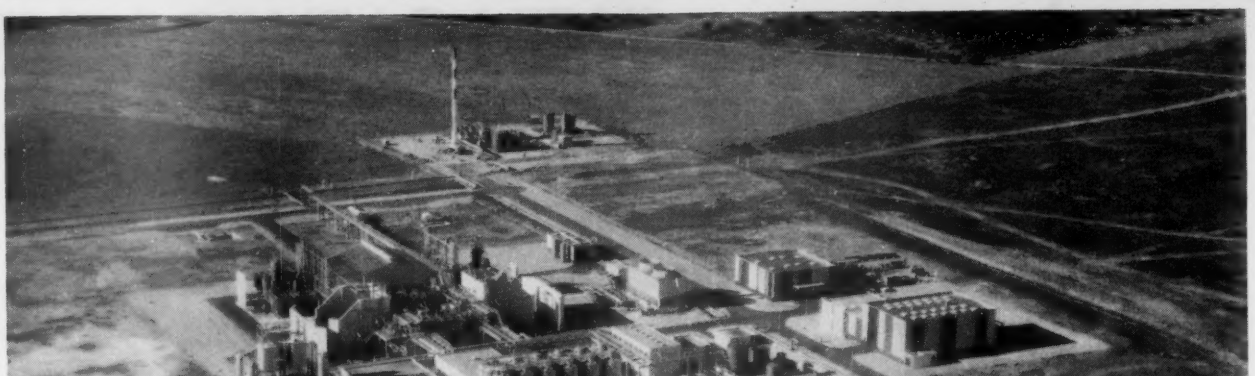
The Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur region is the centre of industrial and economic life. Leading activities comprise steel-making, shipbuilding, ship-repair, chemicals, oil refineries, foodstuffs, soap, essential oils, petrochemicals, aircraft (an important Anglo-French joint-manufacturing arrangement), sugar, mineral extraction (bauxite), nuclear research, underwater exploration and diving, and port operations.

The Côte d'Azur needs no introduction as a tourist centre, but in recent years industrialisation of the French Riviera has become a fact and research centres and non-polluting industries such as computers, pharmaceuticals, and electronics have been set up in the Alpes-Maritimes.

Corsica is also well-known for tourism, but timber, olive oil, wine, foodstuffs and light metal manufactures are the island's leading, if modest, economic resources.

The Languedoc-Roussillon region stretches from the Camargue to the Spanish frontier, accounting for 5 per cent of the total area of France. Viticulture and agriculture prevail. Languedoc-Roussillon is also known as the 'garden of France'. In the light of intense





An aerial view of the ICI ethylene plant at the industrial port complex of Fos-sur-Mer.

competition, mainly from Italy, and with Spanish production looming at the gates of the EEC, viticulture is enduring hard times. Agriculture, in the form of fruit and vegetables, accounts for 20 per cent of the Midi's total production.

The area's tourist potential has been recognised. The coast is being transformed into a major holiday centre. In six main development centres 250 000 beds for tourists have been created.

The traditional industries comprise heavy engineering, oil refining, aluminium, textiles, coal mining, fruit and vegetable-canning, alcoholic drinks, granite, leather-working, carded wool, woollen and synthetic fibre-spinning, timber, fishing and port activities.

Communications

The south of France is now remarkably well-served for communications. There are motorways clear through to the English Channel and Benelux and soon clear across from Spain to Italy. The rail system is excellent. The Rhône is navigable to Lyon and the Rhône-Rhine canal will connect Mediterranean and North Sea. Marseilles still faces the Mediterranean and is a natural centre for trade with north Africa and the Middle East.

There are daily direct flights London/Marseilles and London/Nice and various excursion rates and fares inclusive of hotels. Come in the business season, not as an after-holiday thought.

Trade with the UK

Figures published by the regional customs authorities show that our visible trade balance with the south of France is unfavourable. Last year UK exports were worth Fr 711.6 million as against imports of Fr 944.3 million. But in spite of our modest performance by value, the UK is the third largest supplier to the area.

The dominant factor in two-way trade is aircraft and shipbuilding equipment, parts and accessories. Other UK exports include foodstuffs, chemicals, various machinery and electronic equipment, whereas the region's exports are chemical, rubber and petroleum products, wines and agricultural produce.

Opportunities for British exporters

With 5.7 million inhabitants and a working population of 2.2 million, the south of France offers good overall prospects for UK enterprise. The Midi used to be regarded solely as a tourist paradise, leaving business to the north. But the British businessmen who called on this consulate-general in 1976 have witnessed that times have changed in the south.

While the area shares the problems of the other regions of France during the current economic crisis, long-term prospects are more promising. Although proud of its historical and different past, the south of France is not content to rest on its laurels. Marseilles is to have its new metro in operation by the end of the year, as well as its own world trade centre in 1985. Following the vast tourist expansion of recent years, the French are investing in property and second homes. Money, to be spent on domestic construction and consumer goods, is moving south.

Where does Britain figure in the future of the Phocean city and its hinterland? There are today significant British interests and investments in the Midi, ranging from boats to baking, diesels to distribution and from plastics to petroleum. There are opportunities for selective investments in a wide variety of enterprises; and, for those industries or activities requiring a deep-water port with a wide range of essential services, Fos is tailor-made.

In the capital goods sector there are opportunities for manufacturers of conventional machine tools, materials-handling equipment, marine equipment and accessories, hospital and medical equipment, building/public works machinery, hand/pneumatic tools, textile machinery, equipment and parts for the shipbuilding/ship-repair industry, water and waste-treatment installations, welding equipment, shop fittings and office furniture.

For the exporter of consumer goods the field is extremely wide: pleasure boats, both yachts and cruisers, marine accessories (electronic and mechanical), outdoor garden furniture and games, prefabricated swimming pools, high-quality wall and floor coverings for the hotel and restaurant trade, tableware, giftware, reproduction furniture, hi-fi equipment, domestic hardware, and car accessories. Regional distributors can be found for most of these lines, and British exporters are recommended to seek to appoint regional rather than national representatives. Centralisation of agency arrangements in Paris often means that initiative in the provinces is low, and prices to the consumer/user higher than they need be.

The approach

Ability to write and speak in French and frequent personal visits to the area are the passport to successful business. The Marseillais (and Niçois) have a liking for aggressive, direct salesmanship, provided transactions are carried out in French, with trade

literature and specifications in the French language and in the metric system.

They are open to negotiations assuming they can work out price comparisons from an export price list worthy of the name. They like to know right away about quantity discounts. CIF quotations are always preferred, but in many cases fob price lists showing packing details, together with an indication of export and/or agency discounts, suffice. Strict attention to delivery schedules is of course essential. There is no inhibition about dealing with Britain. Press and poster advertising of British goods is not at all developed but could well repay a modest investment.

The Côte d'Azur and Monaco have made determined and successful efforts to establish themselves as conference and exhibition centres. It is well worth considering attending a selection from the wide range of events taking place virtually throughout the year, many of which are international in scope.

The consulate-general maintains close relations with the French chambers of commerce, which have government support, and other official organisations, visits to which could be valuable to prospective exporters. Too few sales executives from the UK visit southern France – on business that is. The area merits more attention than a few days tacked on to a summer holiday when the local businessmen have withdrawn to the mountains.

As an important number of local firms is concerned in trade with north Africa and the Middle East, the prospect of wider representation for British firms than the Marseilles area itself must be considered.

The commercial and information sections of this consulate-general are only too delighted to help and advise visiting British businessmen. You can sell more to the Midi; let us help you to do so.

Letters to the Editor should be addressed to the Editor, *Trade and Industry*, Room 437, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET, and *not* to HMSO.

Overseas trade exhibitions

British design for Canadian interiors

From John Hill, British consulate general, Toronto

Two leading trade associations closely involved in the field of interior design, the British Carpet Manufacturers' Association and the British Contract Furnishing Association, collaborated with the British Overseas Trade Board in a joint-venture involving 32 companies at the international interior design show held 8 to 10 November in Toronto.

Nineteen companies were showing products of the British carpet industry, with an impressive range of styles and materials in a colourful variety of traditional and contemporary designs, some specially developed for the Canadian commercial market and being shown for the first time in Canada. In 1976 carpet imports into Canada from Britain exceeded $8 million. Thirteen companies displayed fine wall coverings, leather and reproduction military furniture and accessories, nautical brassware, executive and secretarial chairs, architectural lighting of great variety, display and showcase units, curtain tracking, pictures, prints and other accessories, all to catch the eye of the many interior designers, architects and buyers visiting the show.

Nor were British products confined to the joint-venture stands. Elsewhere, agents and distributors were showing, with success, carpets, seating, prints, wall coverings and fine fabrics for drapes and upholstery.

Among the visitors, estimated at about 17 000, were 180 American and European buyers selected by Canadian consulates abroad and flown to the show by the Canadian Department of Industry, Trade and Commerce.

The current state of the Canadian market is comparatively slow, with only a few encouraging signs in immediate sight. Despite this and the comment by several members that aisle traffic was down this year, a number of encouraging sales were made by the British exhibitors, while almost all reported that they expect substantial business to develop over the next 12 months as a direct result of participation in the show. Most indicated they plan to return next year. Canada, with a population now of 23 million and a per-household income in 1976 of $19,100, is likely to remain a long-term worthwhile market for British manufacturers.

Electronic equipment on show in Vienna

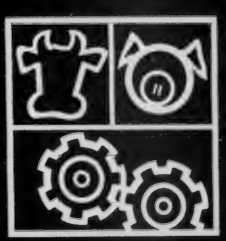
From R. Coeln, British embassy, Vienna

Twenty-four British companies participated in a joint-venture at Internepcon – Vienna 77, which formed part of the international industrial electronic exhibition (I.E. '77) held in Vienna from 9 to 12 November 1977. The joint-venture was sponsored by the Westminster Chamber of Commerce and supported by the British Overseas Trade Board.

This was the first time that Internepcon was held in Vienna, where it expected to attract not only Austrian visitors but also potential customers from east European countries. I.E. Vienna is a biennial event which alternates with the Munich Elektronica.

agromek

International exhibition of agricultural mechanization equipment, cattle and pigs.



Advanced technical machinery and equipment and eltie breeding animals - cattle and pigs - will welcome you in the 10 halls covering 37,000 sq.m. at the Exhibition Centre of Herning.

Agromek '78 presents the entire agricultural machinery and mechanization trade in one common exhibition which enables both Danish and foreign buyers to get an overall survey of the market.
Exhibition of elite breeding animals including approx. 100 head of cattle and approx. 30 pigs from the best Danish herds.
Agromek '78 is open daily from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Information about Agromek '78 can be obtained from the Secretariat: Agromek '78, 35 D Holmetoften, DK-8270 Højbjerg, Denmark.

Organizers:
Danish Manufacturers of Internal Agricultural Mechanization Equipment,
The Association of Danish Manufacturers of Agricultural Machinery and
The Danish Farmers Association.

17-21 January 1978 in Herning - Denmark

ENCIRCLE TI 695 ON PAGE 479 FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

There were about 300 exhibitors altogether (including 95 foreign exhibitors), representing about 1600 firms. The exhibition now covers about 20 000 m² compared with 13 500 m² in 1975. The exhibition attracted about 22 360 visitors.

Internepcon, with 57 exhibitors (including 24 British), occupied a separate hall and the British joint-venture was the only one of its kind at the exhibition. The British exhibitors were generally pleased with the site and were satisfied with the shell stands provided by BOTB. Most exhibitors had a fair amount of serious inquiries, and some substantial business deals were concluded or prepared. The total value of orders received at the stands amounted to £215,000. One exhibitor received an order of £120,000 from the Municipality of Vienna and expect another order of £130,000 from a Yugoslav buyer within the next few months. Another firm estimates the value of business which could result over the next 12 months from this exhibition at £320,000.

All the joint-venture exhibitors who made use of Internepcon as an opportunity to recruit Austrian agents were successful.

Tokyo motor show

From M. S. Baker-Bates, British embassy, Tokyo

British day at the twenty-second Tokyo motor show was on 5 November. The biennial show has become more international in recent years and the impressive British representation, with many companies exhibiting for the first time, underlined this trend.

Almost 1 million visitors visited the Harumi fairground for the show's 10 days (28 October to 7 November). The foreign car hall, where 20 manufacturers were sharing the rather limited space, was a particular attraction to the Japanese public.

This was the first major opportunity for British Leyland to publicise their new joint-venture company with Mitsui and Co, Leyland Japan Ltd, which came into being on 1 April this year. John Morgan, the new company's British vice-president, estimated that on the first Saturday alone nearly 20 000 people had visited the stand, taking with them some 10 000 brochures. Foreign cars are very much at the top end of the market and no manufacturer is expecting volume sales in Japan in the foreseeable future. But Leyland, Ford, Rolls-Royce, Aston-Martin, Lotus and Panther received plenty of inquiries and some very useful publicity.

Over 88 000 visitors were at the show on the British day which began with a flag-raising ceremony and a speech of welcome by Mr Ishihara, vice-president of JAMA and president of Nissan. The guest of honour was John Morris, Secretary of State for Wales.

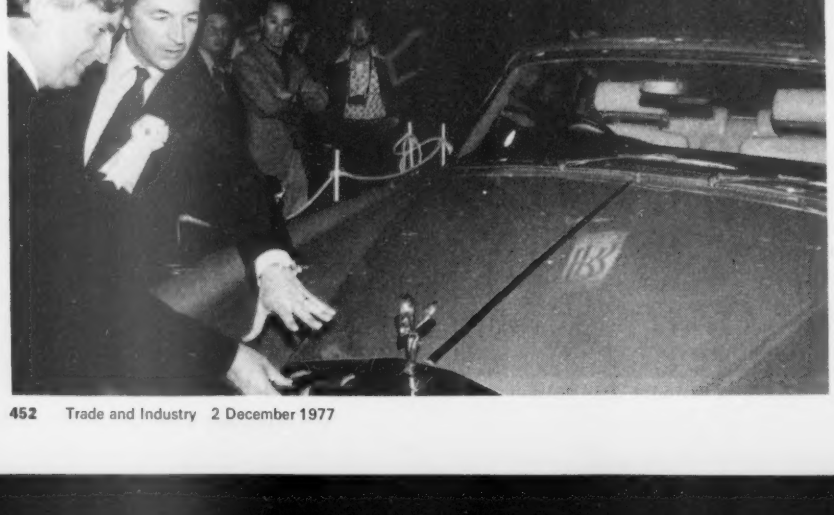
While the car manufacturers were aiming at the public at large, the seven automotive component manufacturers who exhibited as part of a BOTB joint-venture sponsored by the Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders, concentrated on showing their products to the Japanese motor manufacturers. It was the second time this year that they had exhibited in Tokyo – a show was held at the British Export Marketing Centre in May, which itself followed hard on the visit to Britain of the eight-member delegation representing the Japan Automobile Manufacturers' Association, led by Mr Masao Nemoto of Toyota.

The Japanese manufacturers freely admit that a year or so ago they would not have considered purchasing components from Britain. They saw no reason to disturb their own very close and highly successful relationship with domestic suppliers. But a great deal has happened in the last 12 months. It has been made clear to the Japanese that if their present very high level of motorcar exports to the European market is to continue, they will be expected to buy European components. For that reason the JAMA mission spent two weeks in France and three weeks in Britain in March and early April to see for themselves what the component industry in those two countries had to offer. The appearance of the seven components manufacturers at the Tokyo motor show was part of the sustained sales campaign which has been going on since the spring of this year.

While the centre of attraction was inevitably the show itself, a SMMT mission of six companies, the eighth such mission to visit Japan since 1969, was also pursuing a good deal of business. They joined the component exhibitors as guests of the JAMA mission to Britain for a buffet supper which by common consent was a very useful and enjoyable occasion. In his speech Mr Nemoto welcomed the fact that representatives of 34 British component manufacturers had been to Japan in recent months.

One result of all this activity in 1977 is that both sides now know each other better than ever before, so they appreciate each other's problems. The Japanese have to consider their relationships, hitherto so close, with domestic suppliers. The British manufacturers must find a way to ensure that deliveries will be as smooth and regular as those of their competitors here. Above all there is the problem of price. A great deal of work remains to be done and patience is a particular virtue in selling to Japan. The SMMT are already planning their ninth mission for May 1978 so the pressure on this important market will continue. All the evidence shows that the Japanese are responding.

John Morris, Secretary of State for Wales (left), with Mr R. Pearce, Rolls-Royce agent in Japan.



Good performance at Chicago auto parts show

From Harry D. Hall, British consulate-general, Chicago

Eight British manufacturers of automotive parts and accessories tuned up their stands at the beginning of the ninth annual auto parts and accessories show, held in Chicago, shifted into high gear and steered their way to substantial business. They were co-sponsored by the Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders, together with the British Overseas Trade Board.

This international show attracted a record number of 21 000 visitors from all parts of the United States, and Canada. The exhibition housed some 712 exhibitors.

Britain and Canada were the only countries represented by national group exhibits with broadly representative product displays. The British group attracted considerable attention with eye-catching booths in which they displayed a range of wheels, safety-locking devices, steering wheels and covers, car lamps, radio and stereo speakers, key tabs, repair manuals and car mirrors, and also parts for both the after-market and the original equipment manufacturers. Some of the British exhibitors were in Chicago for the first time, hoping to establish representation, with others hoping to increase sales. Most claimed to have achieved these objectives during their three days at the show in undoubtedly an important and growing market for British manufacturers of automotive parts and accessories.

In terms of hard cash the show provided excellent results for the British. In addition to a substantial level of business written up on the stands, nearly $200,000, some 300 inquiries were received for exhibited products. Actual sales were a bonus to exhibitors who normally do not expect to write up business at this particular show, save from overseas visitors.

The British companies participating in the show were left in no doubt of the opportunities existing in the United States for British manufacturers of auto parts and accessories. All expressed an interest in returning to the next event, to be held at McCormick Place in Chicago from 14 to 16 November 1978.

Overseas trade export successes

EMI wins new Japan X-ray order

A further order worth £2.5 million for EMI-Scanner computerised medical X-ray systems for Japan has been announced by EMI Medical Ltd of Slough. Under this new contract, EMI will supply both EMI-Scanner CT5005 general-purpose whole body scanners, and CT1010 systems for head studies. The order was placed by Tokyo Shibaura Electric Co Ltd (Toshiba) which handles the marketing, distribution and installation of EMI-Scanner systems in Japan.

Deliveries from EMI Medical's plants at Hayes and Radlett to Toshiba's medical systems facility at Tamagawa, near Tokyo, are scheduled for completion by April 1979. The EMI-Scanner allows the examination of tissue structures in the brain or body with a hundred times greater clarity than is possible with conventional X-ray procedures.

Further information: circle 190

Major contract for BTR in Poland

BTR Silvertown Ltd of Burton-on-Trent is supplying corrosion-resistant lined pipes and fittings worth £2.6 million for the new £170 million PVC complex under construction at Wloclawek in northern Poland.

The solvents plant, designed by Davy Powergas, incorporates pipework which has to be lined to resist a variety of highly corrosive process fluids. The pipes, ranging from 1 in to 16 in bore, are protected with fluorpolymer linings. As some of the pipework is to be installed underground, BTR is also providing external corrosion protection using a special bitumen and PVC wrapping.

Further information: circle 191

Fire fighting equipment for Egypt

Fire control equipment worth £86,000 will be supplied by Angus Fire Armour Ltd of the Dunlop group of companies to the General Petroleum Co, Egypt.

The largest part of the order is for Angus dry-powder fire extinguishers containing monnex powder, in a variety of sizes from the small hand-held models to the 75 kg wheeled extinguishers. Angus foam-making branchpipes and portable bipod water/foam monitors are also included in the order. Monnex powder is specially suitable for use in high-risk locations such as refineries and petro-chemical complexes.

Further information: circle 192

Ironing machines for Canada

Manlove Tullis Group, Kilbowie Works, Clydebank, has won an export order worth approximately £250,000 from the Quebec Ministry of Health and Social Services to supply 12 units of the company's Alpha Mark 11 fluid-heated ironing machines. The machines will be installed in a new central laundry complex for the use of hospitals, clinics, and other institutions serving a large section of Montreal.

An agreement has also been reached with a Japanese company, Tokyo Sensen Kikai Seisokusho Ltd, to build the Alpha Mark 11 ironers under licence.

Fluid heat on an ironing machine enables the bed temperature to remain constant to ensure uniform production throughout the whole working period. The Alpha Mark 11 machine, designed in integral units using interchangeable components for easier maintenance, has improved bed design and is equipped with 700 mm rollers which are larger than the ones used in the company's earlier model.

Further information: circle 193

Plessey to manage £50m airport development contract

Plessey Radar – which is part of Plessey Electronic Systems – will manage the £50 million plus first-stage development, which includes a £27 million prime systems and equipment contract for Abidjan international airport at Port Bouet, the Ivory Coast.

Sir Alexander Gibb and Partners will be engaged by Plessey on the project as consultants, along with many other UK subcontractors. The contract, placed with Plessey by the Ministry for Public Works, Transport, Building and Town Planning, has received full backing from the Overseas Projects Group of the Department of Trade, the Export Credits Guarantee Department and the British embassy in the Ivory Coast.

The first stage of the development project includes provision of a new 4000 m runway, a new control tower, and a technical block. In addition Plessey will supply extensive technical and support equipments. Later stages will include the building and fitting of new passenger and freight terminals and associated equipment for which Plessey will provide the preliminary design study. The finance for the project has been largely backed by ECGD, the loan being raised by Citicorp Ltd.

Further information: circle 194

Transmark wins feasibility contract in Hong Kong

A British company will shortly start studying the feasibility of building an interchange between the future Mass Transit Railway Corporation's station in Kowloon Tong, Hong Kong, and a proposed Kowloon-Canton Railway station there.

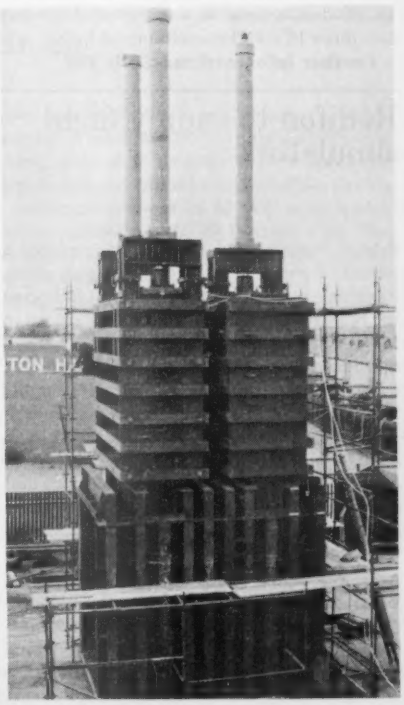
The contract covering the study was won by Transportation Systems and Market Research Ltd (known as Transmark), a subsidiary of British Rail. The Hong Kong Trade Development Council says the contract is valued at approximately £94,000 and the study will take 20 experts five months to complete.

Further information: circle 195

Dam gates for HEP scheme

This dam gate is one of two being supplied as part of the San Juan valley hydro-electric scheme in the Dominican Republic. Each weighs 135 tonnes and measures 14.5 m by 4.1 m by 5 m, and are being built by Sadlers (Lytham) Ltd. The first of the two gates has already been shipped but, because of their size, they are each being split into six sections, the heaviest weighing 30 tonnes. The total value of the order is £250,000.

Further information: circle 196



TV contract for Latin America

Ampex has received a $1.3 million contract from TV Boliviana to supply a variety of professional audio and video equipment to the national television network. This is the first colour studio project carried out in Latin America by the systems division of Ampex International, based in Reading.

The equipment contract included three AVR-2 videotape recorders, five VR-3000 backpack colour VTRs and five BC-300 hand-held cameras, four BCC-1 studio cameras, four ATR-700 audio recorders and four AA-620 audio speakers.

Further information: circle 197

Engine room bilge monitors for Italian shipyards

Italcantieri of Trieste, with shipyards in Monfalcone, Genoa Sestri and Castellammare di Stabia, has placed an order worth over £90,000 for the Babcock Controls engine room bilge monitor.

The instruments, which enable ship operators to ensure compliance with the International Marine Consultative Organisation resolution concerning oil discharges to the sea, are for delivery during 1977 and early 1978. The bilge monitor, which is a development of the company's tanker deballasting monitor, meets the IMCO specification for oil content monitors, and is approved by the principal classification societies.

The instruments ordered by Italcantieri are for various new buildings including six m/v bulk carriers of 81 000 dwt, two m/t vessels of 43 700 dwt, several m/v ferries of 3250 dwt and three 16 400 dwt container ships.

Further information: circle 198

Redifon to supply flight simulators

Braniff International Airlines, has ordered a second Boeing 727 flight simulator from Redifon – a Rediffusion company – following the Braniff order for a 727 simulator placed in May. This simulator will include a faithful reproduction of a Boeing 727-200 flight deck with sophisticated on-board facilities for the two instructors to enable training of individual crew members. These facilities will include full colour graphical displays of operational data. The flight deck and instructors stations will be mounted on a support type motion system which provides six degrees of freedom (pitch, roll, heave, sway, yaw and surge).

The simulator will also incorporate Novoview SP-1, the latest Redifon Computer Generated Image (CGI) visual system, which will provide dusk and night views for the front and side windows of the simulator flight deck. The simulator will be installed at Braniff's new training facility located at the Dallas/Fort Worth airport.

Further information: circle 199

Torvale wins £300,000 export orders

Three export orders for Woodcemax and Woodcelip roof decking, worth more than £300,000, have been won by Torvale Building Products Ltd. The orders have been placed for major building contracts in the Middle East and west Africa.

Torvale will be shipping 14 000 m² of Woodcemax for one of the orders in 55 containers. They will be despatched in pre-assembled bundles, ready for lifting direct to the roof and laying. All the orders will be delivered to sites, ready for erection, within five weeks.

Further information: circle 200

Electric valve actuators for Yugoslavia

About 500 Syncroset electric valve actuators valued at more than £250,000 are being supplied by Rotork Controls Ltd, Bath, for use on a Yugoslavian pipeline project.

The pipeline will transport Kuwait crude oil from a marine terminal at the Yugoslav island of Krk, through Yugoslavia and Hungary to Czechoslovakia.

Further information: circle 201

JCB order from Hungary

J. C. Bamford Excavators Ltd, of Rocester, Staffs, has won an order from Hungary for construction machinery worth nearly £500,000. The order, signed with Hungary's Nikex Foreign Trade Organisation, is for 26 excavator loaders (JCB 3D Mark III's) and one articulated wheeled loader (a JCB 413).

In addition to this order, JCB representatives have returned from the Bucharest international fair with an order for six 108° JCB excavator loaders for Romania.

Further information: circle 202

British signalling goes down-under

ML Engineering (Plymouth) Ltd has won a £152,000 contract to supply railway signalling equipment to Queensland Railways in Australia. The contract is for colour light signals, signal junction indicators, signal spares and point detection equipment. The equipment, which will be manufactured and shipped to Australia within six months, is for the re-signalling of a stretch of the main line north of Brisbane, between Caboolture and Gladstone.

The equipment for their latest order, involving minor modifications to the company's standard products for British Rail, will all be manufactured at ML Engineering's factory and design centre on the Estover industrial estate in Plymouth.

Further information: circle 203

Architects for Qatar naval base

SBT Middle East, the overseas practice of UK architects Scott, Brownrigg and Turner, have been appointed architects and project managers for phase IV of the landward side of the partially completed Sea Arm Naval Base in Qatar. A number of major buildings are included in this phase, together with extensive sporting facilities and integrated landscaping. The estimated cost of the development is £17 million.

SBT Middle East have also been commissioned to design the new operations headquarters building for the Sea Arm Naval Base, which is sited in the dockyard area. The estimated cost of the building is approximately £700,000.

Further information: circle 204

Timber ladders to Nigeria

Stephens and Carter's Maldon-based ladder division has won a £164,000 (fob) contract to manufacture and supply timber ladders to the National Electricity Power Authority, Nigeria.

The contract involves several thousand ladders, comprising 3.66 and 5.49 m lengths, which will be used by the Nigerian authority in its electrification programme. As a result the ladders will be manufactured from a special design derived from the company's Super Sherpa trade model and exclude a wire reinforcement on the back of the stiles.

Further information: circle 205

Sheffield steel to Argentina

Sheffield special steels convertors and stockists, Spencer Clark Metal Industries Ltd, has won a £55,000 export order for special aircraft steels from South America.

The order came as a direct result of exhibiting at this summer's Paris international air show at Le Bourget where the Spencer Clark stand was visited by representatives of the manufacturing facility of the Argentinian Air Force.

Further information: circle 206

Freepost reader service

For further information on items in these sections, circle the corresponding number on the reader services page near the end of the magazine.

Overseas trade country data

Australia

Import duty on ceramic tableware. After consideration of the Industries Assistance Commission's report on ceramic tableware the Australian government has made the following changes with effect from 10 November 1977.

Tariff no./ Description of goods	General rate	Preference rate
69.11 Tableware and other goods of a kind commonly used for domestic or toilet purposes, of porcelain or china (including biscuit porcelain and parian)	To and including 9 Nov 1979 – 25 per cent; from and including 10 Nov 1979 – 20 per cent	To and including 9 Nov 1979 – 25 per cent; from and including 10 Nov 1979 – 20 per cent
69.12 Tableware and other goods of a kind commonly used for domestic or toilet purposes, of pottery other than porcelain or china	To and including 9 Nov 1979 – 25 per cent; from and including 10 Nov 1979 – 20 per cent	To and including 9 Nov 1979 – 25 per cent; from and including 10 Nov 1979 – 20 per cent

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 468/469/401. Ref: CRE 1710/77

Fixed resistors. Following the recent introduction by the Australian government of import restrictions on certain fixed resistors as a temporary measure for the protection of the local industry, the Minister for Business and Consumer Affairs has now asked the Industries Assistance Commission to inquire into and report on the long-term protective needs of the local industry manufacturing fixed resistors of a kind falling within tariff item 85.19.6.

UK firms or trade associations intending to submit evidence at the public hearing, details of which will be announced later, should advise the Industries Assistance Commission, PO Box 80, Canberra ACT 2600 as soon as possible. Evidence may be submitted either through the accredited agent of the firm or through the Australian British Trade Association, 6th floor, Dorland House, 18-20 Lower Regent Street, London SW1Y 4FW, tel. 01-930 2524 who will represent UK interests if authorised. The association charges a fee for its services, the amount varying according to the work entailed in the preparation of a submission and whether or not the interested party is a member.

Inquiries: CRE 01-215 5319. Ref: CRE 1710/77

Agricultural wheeled tractors. A notice in *Trade and Industry*, 5 August 1977, reported a reference to Industries Assistance Commission in respect of the agricultural wheeled tractors exceeding 105 kW. The government has announced that they have decided to remove the existing 105 kW power rating limit for bounty payments for the production and sale of agricultural tractors.

The bounty will be payable on tractors rated over 105 kW and will be adjusted for price movements in exporting countries as is already done with bounty for smaller tractors. These arrangements will apply when the necessary amendments to the Agricultural Tractors Bounty Act 1966 take effect.

There will be no change to the present duty treatment of the tractors or their components.

Assistance measures for the production of agricultural tractors rated in excess of 105 kW will be reviewed by the Commission, together with smaller tractors before 31 December 1984.

Copies of scale of bounty payments are available from OTAR.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 468/469/401.

Import restrictions on fixed resistors. It has just been announced that after considering the report of the Temporary Assistance Authority, the Australian government has decided to introduce import restrictions on certain fixed resistors. The restrictions will apply to imports of fixed resistors falling within tariff item CCCN 85.19.600. Import licences will be determined on the following basis. For the six-month period from 10 November 1977 the base for the purposes of determining importers' entitlements shall be one unit of import quota for each unit purchased or irrevocably committed for delivery, from Australian production prior to the close of that period; for the period from six months to 18 months after implementation, the base shall be one unit of import quota for each two units purchased or irrevocably committed for delivery, from Australian production prior to the close of that period.

Proposed imports covered by irrevocable commitment as at 22 September 1977 will be allowed entry on special licences valid for a period of 60 days from 10 November 1977. In addition, goods in transit or in bond will be allowed entry against special licences provided that such goods are entered for home consumption within 21 days from 10 November 1977 in the case of goods in bond, or within 21 days of arrival in the case of goods in transit. Import licences will be transferable between individual importers under certain conditions.

No further information is available.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 468/469/401.

Bahrain

Exempt companies. The Bahrain Ministry of Commerce and Agriculture has published a recent cabinet decision authorising the issue by the Minister of Commerce and Agriculture of a resolution permitting the registration in Bahrain of companies exempted from certain provisions of the Bahrain Companies Law. This is primarily, but not exclusively, to encourage companies to use Bahrain, which has no direct taxation or exchange control restrictions, as a centre for their Gulf operations.

The following are important items from the resolution (which will be issued shortly): Subject to trading restrictions within Bahrain, these companies will be exempt from the requirements in the Companies Law as to nationality; companies will be required to maintain an office in Bahrain; the minimum paid-up capital will be BD.20,000, or such higher figure as the ministry may require for companies involved in operations such as banking, insurance and investment; a sum of BD.5,000 shall be deposited for the duration of the company's existence with the Bahrain Monetary Agency. Companies will receive the interest earned by such deposits; a registration fee of BD.2,500 should be payable on acceptance of applications, which shall be made in a prescribed form to be issued; an annual fee of BD.2,500 shall be payable; a standard form of memorandum and articles of association will be issued.

Inquiries: CRE 01-215 5221.

Belgium

Foodstuffs regulations. The *Moniteur Belge*, 218, of 11 November 1977 published a decree dated 29 July 1977 amending the decree of 12 September 1972 concerning articles and substances allowed to come into contact with foodstuffs. The decree entered into force on 11 November 1977.

Copies of this decree (in French) are available.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 288/466/467.

Brazil

Concentrated lead ore. Customs policy council resolution, 3047, published in the *Diario Oficial* of 31 October 1977, reduced the import duty on concentrated lead ore having a minimum content of 60 per cent, under tariff heading 26.01.06.99, to 0 per cent. The reduction has a validity of one year, lapsing on 31 October 1978.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 476/474.

Proposed duty increase on dredgers. Customs policy council edital, 876, published in the *Diario Oficial* of 31 October 1977, gave notice that the council was considering a proposed increase in duty on 'diesel-hydraulic dredgers, suction and compaction type, being able to be dismantled for transport', under tariff heading 89.03.01.00 of from 7 per cent to 37 per cent.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 476/474.

Import duty on calcium chloride. Customs policy council edital, 875, published in the *Diario Oficial* of 31 October 1977, gave notice that the council was considering a proposed increase in the import duty on

calcium chloride, under tariff heading 28.30.06.00, of from 30 per cent to 60 per cent.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 476/474.

Bovine meat. Customs policy council resolution, 3048, published in the *Diario Oficial* of 31 October 1977, exempted from import duty a quota of 50 000 tonnes of bovine meat, frozen or chilled on the bone, under tariff heading 02.01.01.00. This concession is valid until 31 December 1977.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 476/474.

Acrylonitrile butadiene styrene. Customs policy council resolution, 3043, published in the *Diario Oficial* of 31 October 1977, increased the import duty on acrylonitrile butadiene styrene, under tariff heading 39.02.02.13, from 55 per cent to 70 per cent. The increase has a validity of one year, lapsing on 31 October 1978.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 476/474.

Methylmorphine (codeine). Customs policy council resolution, 3044, published in the *Diario Oficial* of 31 October 1977, increased the import duty on methylmorphine (codeine), under tariff heading 29.42.34.00, from 15 per cent to 35 per cent.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 476/474.

Threo-1-p-nitrophenyl-2-amino-1, 3-propanodiol. Customs policy council resolution, 3045, published in the *Diario Oficial* of 31 October 1977, increased the import duty on threo-1-p-nitrophenyl-2-amino-1,3-propanodiol, under tariff heading 29.35.51.00, from 25 per cent to 45 per cent.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 476/474.

Finland

Ban on certain pesticides. The Finnish Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry has announced that in pursuance of section 4(4) of the law of 23 May 1969 on pesticides (327/69) any pesticides containing 2,4,5-trichlorophenoxyacetic acid, which also contain as an impurity more than 0.1 milligramme of 2,3,7,8-tetrachlorodibenzo [p] dioxin per kilogramme, calculated on a quantity of 2,4,5-T, may not be sold or used.

No further information is available.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 458/461.

Tax valuation of motor cars. The Finnish authorities have announced that, as from 1 January 1978, seat belts, batteries, spare tyres and hazard warning triangles, already fitted to or included as equipment in motor cars will not be deductible for tax valuation purposes, unless installed in a free port, duty-free zone or elsewhere in Finland. Unofficial translations of the law are available.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 458/461.

Luxembourg

Aerosols. *Luxembourg Memorial*, A37, of 6 July 1977 published a decree dated 20 June 1977 implementing the directive 75/324 of 20 May 1975 concerning aerosols. Copies of this decree (in French) are available.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 288/466/467.

Foodstuffs regulations. The *Luxembourg Memorial*, A37, of 6 July 1977 published a decree dated 8 June 1977 amending the regulations concerning preservatives permitted in foodstuffs intended for human consumption. The decree enters into force as regards manufacture and importation two months after the date of publication, as regards sale to consumers six months after the date of publication. Copies of this decree (in French) are available. An English translation should be available shortly.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 288/466/467.

Lead content of petrol. The *Luxembourg Memorial*, A37, of 6 July 1977 published a decree dated 20 June 1977 concerning the reduction of the amount of lead permitted in petrol. The decree enters into force six months after the date of publication. Copies of this decree (in French) are available.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 288/466/467.

Malaysia

Customs duty amendments. The Malaysian government has passed the Customs Duties (Amendment) (No. 16) Order 1977, which came into force on 28 October 1977, and amends the first schedule to the Customs Duties Order 1977 so that it now reads as follows:

Heading no.	Description	Unit of quantity	Import duty Full
09.02	Tea:		
101	Black, leaf of Malaysian origin	lb	25 cts
102	of foreign origin processed in Malaysia	lb	25 cts
103	of foreign origin blended with that of Malaysian origin	lb	25 cts
104	other	lb	25 cts
	Black, dust:		
111	of Malaysian origin	lb	25 cts
112	of foreign origin processed in Malaysia	lb	25 cts
113	of foreign origin blended with that of Malaysian origin	lb	25 cts
114	other	lb	25 cts
200	Green, leaf	lb	25 cts
210	Green, dust	lb	25 cts
42.02	Travel goods (for example, trunks, suit-cases, hat boxes, travelling bags, ruck-sacks), shopping-bags, handbags, satchels, brief-cases, wallets, purses, toilet-cases, tool-cases, tobacco pouches, sheaths, cases, boxes (for example, for arms, musical instruments, binoculars, jewellery, bottles, collars, footwear, brushes) and similar containers, of leather or of composition leather, of vulcanised fibre, of artificial plastic sheeting, of paperboard or of textile fabric:		
	Travel goods, such as trunks, suit-cases, dressing cases, travelling bags, hat-boxes, toilet-cases, knapsacks, rucksacks, kitbags and haversacks:		
	of or covered with leather, composition leather or textiles:		
110	boxes and trunks	No.	25%
140	other	No.	25%
	of or covered with vulcanised fibre, artificial plastic sheeting of paperboard:		
150	boxes and trunks	No.	25%
190	other	No.	25%
	Cigarette cases, cigar cases, pipe cases, tobacco pouches and similar smokers' accessories:		
210	of or covered with leather, composition leather or textiles	Value	25%
220	of or covered with vulcanised fibre, artificial plastic sheeting or paperboard	Value	25%
	Handbags, pochettes, purses, wallets, brief-cases, portfolios, scholars' satchels:		
310	of or covered with leather, composition leather or textiles	Value	25%
320	of or covered with vulcanised fibre, artificial plastic sheeting or paperboard	Value	25%
	Golf bags, game and fishing bags and other sports bags:		
410	of or covered with leather, composition leather or textiles	Value	25%
420	of or covered with vulcanised fibre, artificial plastic sheeting or paperboard	Value	25%
	Shopping bags, tool-cases, bags and rolls; music-cases, camera-cases, jewel-cases, writing-cases, gun-cases, holsters and similar containers:		
510	of or covered with leather, composition leather or textiles	Value	25%
520	of or covered with vulcanised fibre, artificial plastic sheeting or paperboard	Value	25%
42.03 000	Articles of apparel and clothing accessories, of leather or of composition leather	Dozen	25%
42.04 000	Articles of leather or of composition leather of a kind used in machinery or mechanical appliances or for other industrial purposes	Value	25%
42.05	Other articles of leather or of composition leather:		
100	of leather	Value	25%
500	of composition leather	Value	25%
42.06	Articles made from gut (other than silk-worm gut), from goldbeater's skin, from bladders or from tendons:		
100	Tobacco pouches	Value	25%
64.02	Footwear with outer soles of leather or composition leather; footwear (other than footwear falling within heading no. 64.01) with outer soles of rubber or artificial plastic material:		
	outer soles of leather or composition leather and:		

Heading no.	Description	Unit of quantity	Import duty Full
190	uppers of any other material	Dozen pr	30% or $5 per pair whichever is the higher
	outer soles of rubber and		
210	uppers of leather or composition leather	Dozen pr	30% or $5 per pair whichever is the higher
71.12 000	Articles of jewellery and parts thereof, of precious metal or rolled precious metal	Value	5%
71.13 000	Articles of goldsmiths' or silversmiths' wares and parts thereof, of precious metal or rolled precious metal, other than goods falling within heading no. 71.12	Value	5%
71.14 000	Other articles of precious metal or rolled precious metal	Value	5%
71.15 000	Articles consisting of, or incorporating, pearls, precious or semi-precious stones (natural, synthetic or reconstructed)	Value	5%
71.16 000	Imitation jewellery	Value	5%
90.07	Photographic cameras; photographic flashlight apparatus:		
	Cameras:		
190	other	No.	20%
200	Photographic flashlight apparatus	No.	20%
900	Parts and accessories	Value	20%
90.08	Cinematographic cameras, projectors, sound recorders and sound reproducers; any combination of these articles:		
100	Cameras	No.	20%
200	Sound recorders	No.	20%
300	Combined camera/sound recorder type apparatus	No.	20%
400	Projectors	No.	20%
500	Sound reproducers	No.	20%
600	Combined projector/sound reproducer type apparatus	No.	20%
900	Parts and accessories	Value	20%
90.09	Image projectors (other than cinematographic projectors); photographic (except cinematographic) enlargers and reducers:		
100	Image projectors	No.	20%
	Enlargers and reducers:		
210	for use in the printing industry	No.	20%
290	other	No.	20%
	Parts and accessories:		
	for enlargers and reducers:		
920	other	Value	20%
990	other	Value	20%
90.10	Apparatus and equipment of a kind used in photographic or cinematographic laboratories, not falling within any other heading in this Chapter; photocopying apparatus (whether incorporating an optical system or of the contact-type) and thermo-copying apparatus; screens for projectors:		
100	Photo-copying apparatus (contact-type)	No.	15%
200	Spools and reels for film	No.	15%
300	Screens for projectors	Value	15%
900	Other	Value	15%
91.01	Pocket-watches, wrist-watches and other watches, including stop-watches:		
100	Wrist-watches	No.	10%
900	Other	No.	10%
91.02 000	Clocks with watch movements (excluding clocks of heading no. 91.03)	No.	10%
91.04	Other clocks:		
100	Spring-driven clocks not falling within heading no. 91.02 or 91.03	No.	20%
200	Electric clocks not falling within heading no. 91.03	No.	20%
900	Other	No.	20%

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 469/401/468.

Morocco

Import duties: cheese, hydrocarbons. The Ministry of Finance has announced modifications in the customs tariff and/or changes in duty rates on items CCCN 29.01 and 04.04. These items should now read:

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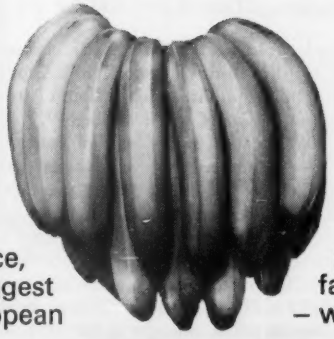

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Tariff no./description of goods	Duty rate
04.04	
Cheese and curd:	
A Cheese, soft and cooked:	
Of a minimum fat content of 45 per cent by weight, calculated on the dry product, ripened for at least three months	70%
Other	100%
E Not specified:	
i Soft, uncooked	100%
29.01	
Hydrocarbons:	
A Acyclic:	
II For other purposes:	
b Unsaturated:	
1 Ethylene	Exempt
2 Other	10%

No further information is available.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 462.

New Zealand

Importation of seeds. The New Zealand government has issued the Importation of Seeds Notice 1977, Amendment 1, which should be read with and deemed part of the Importation of Seeds Notice 1977 (see *Trade and Industry*, 17 July 1977).

Copies are available, for UK exporters, from OTAR.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 401/468/469.

Mini-budget. On 28 October Mr Muldoon the New Zealand Prime Minister announced a package of financial measures to help give stimulus to the economy. The main features were a 5 per cent cut in personal income tax; an injection of NZ $16 million to help the construction industry with programmes which do not have a high import content; exemption from hire-purchase restrictions of all goods except colour television sets, cars and motor cycles; and additional measures costing NZ $1.5 million to expand imports including extensions of present export incentive schemes.

Inquiries: CRE 01-215 5321.

Portugal

Tariff amendment. Portuguese *Diario da Republica* 248, 26 October published Decree-Law 444/77 adding a note to tariff heading 51.04.02. Under the terms of this note woven fabrics imported by manufacturers of sails or pleasure craft and used in the production of sails for such craft may be imported at a reduced rate of import duty, subject to certain provisions.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 458/461.

Sweeteners in soft drinks. Portuguese *Diario da Republica* 222, 24 September 1977 published Decree-Law 403/77, amending the soft drinks law (Decree-Law 42 159 of 25 February 1959). Article 7 is amended to read as follows:

The only sweeteners permitted in soft drinks shall be sugars which conform to Portuguese standards or, in the absence thereof, those adopted by the FAO/WHO Codex Alimentarius Commission.

The temporary permission to use artificial sweetening agents, such as saccharine, in soft drinks, granted in the decision of 20 November 1974, will cease on 24 September 1978.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 458/461.

Republic of Ireland

Marketing standards for eggs. The Irish Ministry of Agriculture has issued Statutory Instrument 325 of 1977, entitled European Communities (Marketing Standards for Eggs) Regulation 1977. The effect of the regulation is to apply fully the seven metric weight grade system provided for in Article 10 of EEC regulation 2772/75 of 29 October 1975. The weight grading of eggs in the four Imperial weight categories will no longer be permitted, as from 1 January 1978.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 466/467/288.

South Africa

Customs tariff changes. The following amendments were published in the South African *Government Gazette* of 11 November 1977.

R.2307 CCCN 51.04, 53.11, 54.05, 55.09 and 56.07. The rates of duty on certain textile fabrics are amended.

Industrial rebates

R.2308 Item 311.27. CCCN 54.05. Provision is made for a rebate of the full duty less 10 per cent on woven fabrics of flax, for the manufacture of water bags.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 471/472/473/462.

Value for customs duty purposes. With effect from 1 January 1978, the value for customs duty purposes will be the normal price thereof. As it is not expected that the necessary legal requirements will be complete before 1 January 1978, South African customs will accept the DA60 up until 30 June 1978 and as neither domestic value nor certificate of value will legally be required from 1 January 1978 the certificate of origin on DA60 will also be acceptable until the end of June.

Copies of the definition of normal price as given in Act 112 of 1977 may be obtained from OTAR.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 471.

Tartaric acid and malic acid: customs tariff application. Customs Tariff Application List 30/77, published in the South African *Government Gazette* of 18 November 1977 contains an application to the Board of Trade and Industries for increase in duty on tartaric acid, in containers of less than 5 kg net mass each, classifiable under tariff subheading 29.15.10, tartaric acid in containers of 5 kg or more net mass each, classifiable under tariff subheading 29.16.15.20, malic acid, classifiable under tariff subheading 29.16.75. Those British trade organisations thought to be interested in the application are being informed. Any British firm affected which wishes to make representations to the South African Board of Trade and Industries and belongs to a trade organisation should, therefore, first contact its own trade association.

If any firm proposes to make independent representations to the South African authorities and requires further information concerning the application, it should address inquiries to the Commercial Relations and Exports Department, Department of Trade and Industry, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET.

Inquiries: CRE 01-215 5274.

Bumpers: customs tariff application. Customs Tariff Application List 31/77, published in the South African *Government Gazette* of 25 November 1977 contains an application to the Board of Trade for Industries for increase in duty on bumpers classifiable under tariff subheading 87.06.90.90.

Those British trade organisations thought to be interested in the application are being informed. Any British firm affected which wishes to make representations to the South African Board of Trade and Industries and belongs to a trade organisation should, therefore, first contact its own trade association.

If any firm proposes to make independent representations to the South African authorities and requires further information concerning the application, it should address inquiries to the Commercial Relations and Exports Department, Department of Trade and Industry, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET.

Inquiries: CRE 01-215 5274.

Spain

Compulsory addition of dioxide of titania. The Spanish *State Gazette* of 11 November 1977 published a resolution of the Ministry of Health establishing as compulsory the addition of bioxide of titania to all products containing soya bean proteins to be used for human consumption. The content of bioxide of titania will be 1 per cent of the soya bean proteins. One year's grace from 11 November 1977 for complying with this resolution is given. In order to exhaust the existing stocks of soya bean proteins, merchants and industrialists with stocks of these proteins will have to submit details of their stocks within one month from that date. No further information is available.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 461/458/459/460.

Customs tariff modifications. The Spanish *State Gazette* of 23 September 1977 published Royal Decrees 2416, 2417, 2418, 2420 and 2421, all of 23 July 1977, amending the tariff sub-headings to read as follows:

Decree/CCCN/description	Import duty
2416/92.12 A	
Prepared but not recorded (wax recordings, discs, tapes, wires etc)	
1 of magnetic tape printed or applied on paperboard	26%
2 Magnetic tapes of plastic, on supports other than recording spools, spindles, reels and the like	10% (Specific minimum 10 pesetas/unit)
3 Other	Free
2417/84.33 A	
2 Machines for cutting paperboard cross-wise, capable also of grooving of a working width exceeding 220 cm	15%
3 Machines for cutting out boxes from paperboard, with or without auxiliary printing devices (slotters)	15%
2418/84.35 C	
Printing machines	
4 Offset	
a Weighing each more than 7500 kg	20%

Decree/CCCN/Description	Import duty
b Weighing each more than 7500 kg but not more than 12 000 kg	12%
c Weighing each more than 12 000 kg	9%
2420/90.09 B	
Microfilm readers	
1 Non-automatic for reading microcopies on fiches plates or film of up to 16 mm	36.5%
2 Other, including reader copies	Free

All the above decrees came into force on the day of publication. No further information is available.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 461/458/459/460.

Sri Lanka

Budget 1978. The new government of Sri Lanka announced its budget for the year 1978 on 15 November and introduced major economic reforms which include the liberalisation of import and exchange control regulations. The main features are a single exchange rate which will float from day to day based on the initial middle rate of US$1 = Rs16 (£1 = Rs29). The systems of Foreign Exchange Entitlement Certificates (FEECS) and Convertible Rupee Accounts (CRA) are abolished. Generally, exchange transactions have been eased and authorised dealers (commercial banks in Sri Lanka) may sell foreign exchange for most invisible payments without the prior approval of the Central Bank.

The import exemption regulations of 1974 have been amended by permitting trade samples worth up to Rs5,000 cif without a licence if not designated for commercial use. The new import licence regulations permit a large number of goods to be imported freely without a licence. The remaining items are divided into two categories; goods requiring an import licence; goods requiring prior approval if the value of each consignment exceeds Rs700,000. The monopolies formerly enjoyed by the public sector have been withdrawn and both public and private sectors will compete for the import and distribution of commodities.

A new schedule of customs duties ranging from duty free to 100 per cent has been announced but no details have yet been received. British exporters who require details of customs duties in addition to the import licensing position are advised not to apply until they receive notification that the revised customs tariff is available. British exporters with inquiries about the import licensing position should specify the items in which they are interested.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 420/475.

Syria

Import documentation. Details of the revised import documentation requirements for goods imported into Syria are now available, on request.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 475/7062.

United States

Saccharin and salts. The *Federal Register* dated 15 November 1977 published details of tentative guidelines by the Food and Drug Administration to assist manufacturers of foods containing saccharin to comply with new regulations relating to labelling in the event that the Saccharin Study and Labelling Act becomes law. A copy of the text is available to British exporters from OTAR Section, Export Data Branch, Department of Trade, Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7HU.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 456/457/7312.

Intraocular lenses. The *Federal Register* dated 11 November 1977 published a final rule by the Food and Drug Administration establishing requirements for the distribution, investigation and use of intraocular lenses; the rule applies to manufacturers and importers of the lenses. A copy of the text is available to British exporters from OTAR section, Export Data Branch, Department of Trade, Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7HU.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 456/457/7312.

Gelatin. The *Federal Register* dated 11 November 1977 published rules proposed by the Food and Drug Administration to affirm the use of gelatin as a food additive generally recognised as safe. Written comments (4 copies) by 9 January 1978 to Food and Drug Administration, Room 4-65, 5600 Fishers Lane, Rockville MD 20857. A copy of the text is available to British exporters from OTAR Section, Export Data Branch, Department of Trade, Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7HU.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 456/457/7312.

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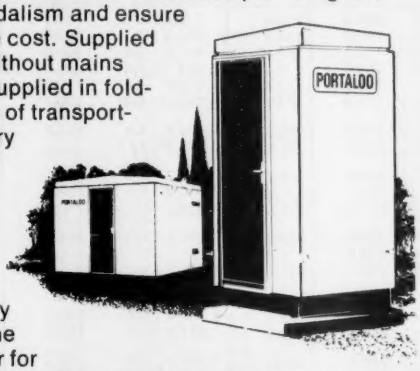

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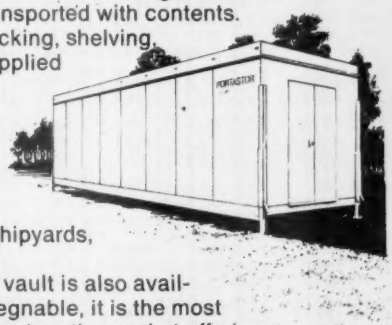

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Statistics

The economy: selected indicators

Series are seasonally adjusted except where shown otherwise

	Gross domestic product (average estimate)	Consumers' expenditure	Fixed capital expenditure			Changes in stocks				Balance of payments		
				of which			of which					
			Total	Manufacturing industry	Distributive and service industries excl. shipping	Total	Manufacturing industry	Wholesalers	Retailers	Current balance	Visible balance	Invisible balance
	at 1970 prices		at 1970 prices			at 1970 prices				at current prices		
Base of index Series in Stock level at end-1976	1970	£ million	£ million			£ million				£ million		
						18,041	10,528	1,830	1,929			
1970	100.0	31,696	9,453	2,130	1,799	444	325	68	−16	695	−25	720
1971	101.8	32,675	9,682	1,991	1,930	92	−148	52	18	1,058	280	778
1972	104.2	34,542	9,797	1,739	2,071	34	−145	48	15	105	−702	807
1973	110.4	36,062	10,253	1,753	2,414	1,321	597	102	379	−922	−2,353	1,431
1974	109.5	35,361	10,287	2,028	2,414	596	634	81	−109	−3,565	−5,194	1,629
1975	107.8	35,257	10,062	1,745	2,034	−743	−429	−111	−65	−1,701	−3,203	1,502
1976	110.1	35,405	9,724	1,659	1,974	66	5	23	9	−1,405	−3,571	2,166
1975 2nd qtr.	108.0	8,880	2,484	446	513	−213	−74	−51	−61	−333	−657	324
3rd qtr.	106.6	8,739	2,562	420	512	−213	−209	−26	16	−620	−974	354
4th qtr.	107.4	8,649	2,461	407	494	−147	−115	−12	24	−183	−628	445
1976 1st qtr.	110.1	8,829	2,489	405	471	44	0	26	33	−90	−538	448
2nd qtr.	109.6	8,797	2,425	407	489	−57	−66	−20	−45	−390	−907	517
3rd qtr.	109.8	8,880	2,436	421	506	−1	−2	14	16	−511	−1,144	633
4th qtr.	110.8	8,899	2,375	426	508	80	73	3	5	−414	−982	568
1977 1st qtr.	109.4	8,762	2,242	419	507	209	125	51	102	−461	−962	501
2nd qtr.	109.9	8,663	2,241	432	509		164	39	−5	−241	−733	492
3rd qtr.		8,800 pe		454 p	524 p		−78 p	11 p	−44 p	496	−29	525 e
% change last 2 qtrs. on prev. 2 qtrs.	−0.6	−1.1	−6.8	+4.9	+1.8							
on a year earlier	−0.2	−1.2	−8.8	+7.0	+3.8							

	Industrial production		Personal expenditure		Prices and earnings					Labour (UK)			Visible trade (volume)	
	Total all industries	Total manufacturing industries	Retail sales	Cars: new registrations	Retail prices		Wholesale prices: all manufacturing industry		Average gross earnings of all employees (GB, all industries and services covered)	Unemployed excluding school leavers and adult students		Unfilled vacancies for adults	Export	Import
				monthly averages		% increase on a year earlier	basic materials and fuel used	manufactured products: home sales		mid-month count	% of total employees	mid-month count	On a balance of payments basis	
	at 1970 prices		at 1971 prices		(not seasonally adjusted)				(old series)				at 1970 prices	
Base of index £m in base year Series in	1970	1970	1971 15,895	thousands	Jan. 1974		1970	1970	Jan. 1970	thousands		thousands	1970 7,907	1970 7,932
1971	100.3	99.4	100.0	108.5	80.0	9.4	104.6	109.0	119.4	775.8	3.4	130.9	106.7	104.2
1972	102.5	102.0	105.8	138.6	85.7	7.1	109.2	114.8	134.8	854.9	3.7	147.3	107.1	116.7
1973	109.9	110.5	110.7	137.1	93.5	9.1	144.5	123.2	152.6	611.0	2.6	307.0	122.2	133.8
1974	106.9	108.8	109.9	102.8	108.5	16.0	215.3	152.0	179.6	599.7[1]	2.6[1]	302.7[1]	132.0	136.4
1975	101.6	102.3	107.9	97.2	134.8	24.2	235.4	188.7	227.6	929.0	3.9	150.0[1]	126.1	126.5
1976	102.2	103.4	108.1	104.7	157.1	16.5	299.0	219.6	263.3	1,269.8[1]	5.4[1]	120.4[1]	136.6	134.3
1976 3rd qtr.	101.8	103.9	108.9	97	158.5	13.7	306.8	223.2	265.5	1,305.5	5.5	123.6	134.9	138.0
4th qtr.	103.2	104.8	108.5	113	165.8	15.0	329.9	233.9	272.8	1,316.8[1]	5.6[1]	..	141.5	138.2
1977 1st qtr.	103.5	105.6	105.0	104	174.1	16.5	341.5	248.0	280.2	1,330.2	5.6	..	141.2	142.3
2nd qtr.	102.2	103.1	103.9	102	181.9	17.4	347.7	259.2	285.2	1,330.4	5.6	159.2	149.3	144.4
3rd qtr.	102.4 p	103.1 p	106.8	112	184.7	16.5	340.5 p	267.7 p	288.2 p	1,420.8	6.0	150.5	153,4	141,6
1976 Oct.	102.8	104.8	108.1	109	163.5	14.7	327.7	230.0	269.0	1,307.9	5.5	124.5	141.6	140.7
Nov.	103.4	105.0	109.2	119	165.8	15.0	331.8	234.6	272.2	..	..	..	138.8	140.2
Dec.	103.5	104.5	108.3	111	168.0	15.1	330.2	237.2	277.1	1,325.7 e	5.6 e	..	144.1	133.7
1977 Jan.	103.7	105.4	106.7	93	172.4	16.6	337.8	244.9	278.1	1,338.2	5.7	..	141.5	153.8
Feb.	103.4	105.6	105.7	118	174.1	16.2	339.5	248.2	278.7	1,331.4	5.6	150.5	138.8	133.8
Mar.	103.5	105.7	103.1	102	175.8	16.7	347.2	250.8	283.8	1,321.1	5.6	157.3	143.3	139.4
Apr.	102.5	103.7	103.4	108	180.3	17.5	349.7	255.4	283.1	1,322.6	5.6	158.5	149.9	139.2
May	103.7	105.2	104.4	108	181.7	17.1	348.3	259.8	286.2	1,315.9	5.6	161.2	145.4	142.9
June	100.3	100.3	103.8	90	183.6	17.7	345.2	262.4	286.2	1,352.9	5.7	157.8	152.5	151.2
July	102.4	103.6	107.0	109	183.8	17.6	344.5	265.8	286.5	1,402.2	5.9	152.7	153.3	149.0
Aug.	102.7	103.2	107.2	124	184.7	16.5	338.8	268.1	288.1	1,413.8	6.0	154.1	150.2	131.5
Sept.	102.0 p	102.6 p	106.2	103	185.7	15.6	338.1 p	269.3 p	289.5 p	1,446.4	6.2	144.7	156.6	144.3
Oct.			106 p	118	186.5	14.1	334.4 p	270.9 p		1,433.4	6.1	153.4	149.4 p	141.1 p
Nov.										1,432.9 p	6.1	155.6 p		
% change latest 3 months on prev. 3 months	+0.2	—	+1.3	+12.4	+1.4		−2.6	+2.6	+1.1	+3.4			+1	−6
on a year earlier	+0.5	−0.7	−2.1	+11.3	+15.4		+6.9	+18.9	+8.6	+9.4			+10	+½

p Provisional pe Preliminary estimate e Estimate .. Not available [1] Average of available months

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Economic indicators of the industrial countries: quarterly analysis

Rapid recovery in industrial countries' output in the first half of 1976 moderated during the rest of the year and the first half of 1977. Production increased by 1 per cent in the second quarter following a rise of 1½ per cent in the first quarter. This also represented a slightly slower rate of growth when compared with the same periods a year earlier.

Similarly, the overall value of world trade (measured by exports and imports in US dollars) continued to recover in the first quarter, but at a much slower pace than had been evident throughout 1976. Exports by countries outside the OECD area, contrary to the experience of 1976 when they had grown nearly twice as fast as OECD countries exports, fell by ½ per cent in the first quarter, while those of member countries increased by 2 per cent. However, compared with the same periods a year earlier both exports and imports by non-OECD member countries increased by over 20 per cent, a faster rate than that achieved by the OECD group. Turning to OECD countries' trade in the first half of 1977, import value increased by 5½ per cent compared with the second half of 1976, slower than the respective increase in exports value. However, comparisons between the first halves of 1976 and 1977 show that imports increased at a faster rate than exports. Within the total, exports to each other rose by 16½ per cent, while exports to non-member countries were up 14 per cent. Thus, the marked gap between the rates of growth in intra and extra trade of 1976, was narrowed significantly. In terms of volume, exports increased by 1½ per cent in the second quarter while imports were flat. But, similarly to the value performance, increase in imports exceeded exports compared with corresponding periods a year earlier.

Following some reacceleration in consumer price increases in the first six months of 1977, with the average annual inflation rate reaching 10 per cent by June, price increases in the OECD area thereafter began to slow down. Partly as a result of falling commodity prices and other favourable seasonal influences the

The tables have been prepared for the convenience of users who do not have access to the sources themselves. International publications (as indicated) have been used, supplemented, where available, by later reports, denoted – (e). The form of presentation adopted – indicators by subject – is for convenience only, and it must not be assumed that the indicators in the same table for different countries are strictly comparable. An attempt has been made to indicate major differences of definition, but the coverage and methods of collection vary considerably; this is partly due to different administrative procedures in various countries. Fuller details may be obtained from the sources indicated, and from the national publications of the countries concerned. Exchange rates are those used in the basic data sources. The group of industrial countries is taken as comprising the members of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) ie: western Europe, north America, Japan, Australia and New Zealand. Consumer prices apart, New Zealand is excluded from OECD totals in that insufficient information is available.

This article is the quarterly variation of the monthly series, supplementing the usual tables with those showing: gross domestic production, earnings/wages, world and industrial countries trade, balance of payments, import and export volume and exports of manufactures.

Table 1 **Industrial production** (excluding construction) seasonally adjusted

Indices 1970 = 100

	Belgium	Luxembourg	France	F.R. of Germany[2]	Ireland	Italy	Netherlands	United Kingdom r	EEC[1]	Canada r	United States	Japan	OECD
Weights in total	1.3	0.1	7.1	12.5	0.2	4.5	1.5	6.3	33.5	3.5	43.2	11.6	
1971	103	98.7	104	101.8	105	99.9	106	99.8	102	105.6	102.0	102.3	101
1972	109	102.8	112	105.7	109	104.4	111	102.1	106	113.0	111.0	110.2	108
1973	116	115.1	119	112.9	120	114.5	119	110.4	115	122.4	120.4	127.4	119
1974	120	119.1	123	111.3	122	119.0	123	108.4	115	126.9	119.9	123.5	119
1975	108	93.0	114	105.0	114	108.5	117	103.2	108	121.3	109.3	110.4	109
1976	118	98.8	124	112.7	125	121.1	125	104.5	115	127.4	120.4	125.1	119
1975 1st quarter	111	101.4	113	104	115	110.2	118	107.8	108	121.3	105.0	106.5	108
2nd	107	92.5	113	103	113	107.0	115	102.3	106	120.7	106.0	109.8	108
3rd	105	82.6	112	104	114	105.9	113	111.1	106	120.8	111.8	112.2	111
4th	110	94.4	117	108	116	110.8	121	102.3	110	122.4	114.4	112.9	114
1976 1st quarter	114	97.5	122	111	122	116.6	121	102.9	113	125.7	117.8	119.5	117
2nd	119	104.1	123	113	123	120.7	123	104.7	115	128.0	120.0	125.0	119
3rd	118	95.9	125	113	126	122.7	126	104.5	116	127.5	121.5	127.0	121
4th	121	98.1	125	115	127	127.9	127	106.1	118	128.4	122.2	129.3	122
1977 1st quarter	121	100.1	129	117	131	130.6	126	107.4	120	131.1	123.8	130.1	124
2nd	121	103.9	126	116	134	121.4	126	105.6	117	131.5	127.4	131.1	125
3rd			125	115 e		120.0	125	105.5		130.7 e	128.6	129.8 e	
1976 January	112	96.4	120	111		112.0	120	101.9	111	124.6	116.6	116.5	115
February	114	98.4	120	112		118.8	120	103.4	114	125.8	118.1	119.0	117
March	117	97.7	122	110		119.0	122	103.4	114	126.6	118.8	122.7	118
April	120	100.9	122	112		118.6	124	104.1	115	127.5	119.1	125.9	119
May	119	108.6	122	111		124.1	121	106.2	115	127.5	120.2	123.4	120
June	121	102.9	123	113		119.5	124	103.5	115	127.2	120.7	125.7	120
July	114	93.5	124	111		122.7	124	104.5	115	126.7	121.2	127.3	120
August	121	86.3	124	113		118.9	125	103.8	115	128.2	121.8	126.7	120
September	120	107.9	129	115		126.4	129	105.2	119	127.5	121.3	127.1	122
October	122	104.9	123	115		122.8	126	105.5	117	127.2	121.0	127.3	121
November	119	95.6	129	115		128.2	125	106.2	119	128.6	122.3	130.4	123
December	121	93.7	125	116		131.7	129	106.4	119	129.4	123.5	130.3	123
1977 January	122	102.5	129	117		130.1	128	107.6	121	131.6	122.7	130.7	124
February	119	95.2	128	116		130.7	125	107.3	119	130.8	123.6	128.4	123
March	123	102.5	129	118		131.0	125	107.4	120	131.7	125.5	131.2	125
April	120	99.4	126	116		122.5	130	106.0	118	130.8	126.3	132.3	124
May	122	106.6	124	115		125.7	125	107.5	117	131.5	127.1	129.6	124
June	121	105.6	128	116		117.0	124	103.4	117	132.2	127.8	131.4	125
July	104	96.4	124	115		118.5	124	105.5	116	130.8	128.8	128.8	124
August	120	84.6	124	115		119.0	123	105.8	117	130.8	128.2	130.0	124
September		100.1	126	114 e		122.6	128 e	105.1		130.5 e	128.8	130.0 e	
October											129.2		
% change latest three months													
On previous three months	−6.6	−9.1	−0.8	−0.9	2.3	−1.4	−1.1	0.2	−1.4	−0.6	0.4	−1.2	—
On a year earlier	−3.1	−1.6	−0.8	1.5	8.9	−2.1	−0.8	1.2	1.4	2.5	6.1	2.1	3.6

[1] Excluding Denmark. [2] Due to changes in the method of calculation, the quarterly and monthly figures for F.R. Germany have been substantially revised. r Revised.
Source: United Kingdom: Department of Trade; all others 'OECD MEI'.

Table 2 Gross domestic production

Indices 1970 = 100

	Canada	United States [1]	Japan [1]	Italy	France [2]	FR of Germany [1]	United Kingdom
1971	106	103	107	101	105	107	102
1972	113	109	118	104	111	111	104
1973	122	115	129	111	118	116	110
1974	126	113	127	116	120	116	110
1975	128	112	130	112	120	114	108
1976	134	119	138	118	127	118	110
1973 1st quarter	120	114	126	106	116	116	110
2nd	121	115	129	110	117	117	111
3rd	122	115	129	113	118	116	111
4th	125	116	129	116	120	117	110
1974 1st quarter	127	114	125	117	122	117	106
2nd	127	114	126	118	122	117	110
3rd	126	113	128	116	123	117	112
4th	126	112	128	113	119	114	110
1975 1st quarter	126	109	128	112	117	112	109
2nd	127	110	129	111	119	112	108
3rd	129	114	131	110	118	114	107
4th	129	114	132	113	121	116	107
1976 1st quarter	133	117	136	116	125	119	110
2nd	135	118	138	118	127	110	110
3rd	134	119	139	118	128 e	120	110
4th	134	120	140	120	129 e	122	111
1977 1st quarter	136	122	143	122 e		123	109
2nd	134 e	124	145 e			123	110
3rd						122 e	110 e
% change latest quarter							
On previous quarter	−1.5	1.6	1.4	1.7	1.0	−0.8	—
On a year earlier	−0.7	5.1	5.1	5.2	6.6	+1.7	—

[1] GNP at market prices. [2] Annual and quarterly figures are on a different basis. Figures are subject to further revision e Estimated figures.
Source: OECD National Income Accounts; German FR, Bundesbank Reihe 4; UK, Central Statistical Office; France, Ensee.

rate was reduced to 9 per cent by September. There are, however, still large differences in rates between countries.

Unemployment in the OECD area remains high although there has been an improvement in the USA over recent months. In many of the other countries the unemployment rates are still rising.

United States

Following a period of strong expansion in the second quarter of 1977, when both industrial production and real GNP increased markedly, the third quarter saw a considerable slowdown in economic activity. Production increased by only 1 per cent over the previous quarter and by 6 per cent over the year. Preliminary estimates of GNP in the third quarter suggest a fall in the annual rate of growth compared to rates achieved in the previous two quarters.

In the three months to August the value of both exports and imports rose by 1½ per cent over the previous three months. However, between the first eight months of 1976 and 1977 imports rose by 26 per cent (or four times as fast as exports). These movements mainly reflected increased oil imports and, so far, little overseas demand for exports. Thus, over the same periods a large deterioration in the trade account deficit took place; from US $2 billion to US $18 billion.

Table 3 Unemployment seasonally adjusted [7]

Numbers thousands

	Belgium [2] r	Denmark [3]	France [1]	F.R. of Germany [1]	Ireland [2]	Italy [3] [9]	Nether-lands [1]	United Kingdom [1] [3]	Canada [2]	United States [3]	Japan [3]
1970	71	24	262	148	42	616	46	602	495	4 089	593
1971	71	30	337	185	42	613	62	776	552	4 993	639
1972	87	30	380	246	48	696	108	885	562	4 840	730
1973	92	20	394	274	44	669	110	611	520	4 305	670
1974	105	45	498	583	48	560	135	600 [5]	525	5 076	740
1975	177	103	840	1 074	75	654	195	929	697	7 830	1 000
1976	229	107	933	1 060	84	732	211	1 269 [5]	736	7 288	1 080
1975 1st quarter	143	99	708	1 000	68	603	174	738	664	7 476	913
2nd	169	103	829	1 070	74	667	191	847	698	8 087	963
3rd	189	101	915	1 123	78	648	205	1 000	716	7 997	1 025
4th	210	109	916	1 142	80	699	210	1 132	721	7 912	1 114
1976 1st quarter	213	109	907	1 139	82	681	208	1 223	705	7 151	1 072
2nd	227	106	950	1 033	84	693	208	1 246	730	7 014	1 102
3rd	238	104	951	1 035	85	776	221	1 308	752	7 439	1 101
4th	238	115	932	1 014	83	777	206	n.a.	764	7 578	1 038
1977 1st quarter	246	127	973	1 022	82	1 459	194	1 330	822	7 068	1 032
2nd	261	143	1 095	1 017	84	1 432	198	1 331	853	6 816	1 110
3rd	276	151	1 185	1 058		1 692	217	1 421	875	6 814	1 152
1976 April	219	101	929	1 071	84		204	1 234	749	7 040	1 053
May	226	99	953	1 013	85		207	1 250	719	6 860	1 180
June	236	99	967	1 016	83		213	1 257	723	7 143	1 084
July	237	105	950	1 036	85		217	1 294	761	7 428	1 114
August	243	103	962	1 091	86		225	1 309	745	7 506	1 117
September	235	105	941	1 028	84		220	1 319	750	7 384	1 074
October	231	113	935	1 022	83		214	1 305	769	7 564	1 058
November	243	111	931	1 009	83		207	n.a.	752	7 651	1 086
December	239	122	930	1 011	83		199	1 326	772	7 519	973
1977 January	242	125	945	1 053	81		196	1 338	780	6 958	1 005
February	245	132	972	1 020	81		193	1 331	829	7 183	1 032
March	250	125	1 003	992	83		192	1 321	856	7 064	1 057
April	254	132	1 039	1 015	83		192	1 323	870	6 737	1 030
May	262	146	1 097	1 008	84 e		197	1 316	841	6 750	1 127
June	267	150	1 151	1 028	84 e		206	1 353	847	6 962	1 172
July	272	145	1 180	1 066	84 e		212	1 402	859	6 744	1 143
August	282	155	1 216	1 066	84 e		220	1 414	879	6 926	1 153
September	275	153 e	1 160	1 043			218	1 446	886	6 773	1 117 e
October	273		1 100	1 033				1 433	886	6 221	
November								1 433			
Rate % in latest month	10.1	7.3 e	6.1	4.6	12.1 e	7.7	5.6	6.1	8.3	6.3	2.0 e
% change latest three months											
On previous three months	3.6	5.8	1.4	1.3	8.8	18.2	9.2	3.4	4.1	−2.6	3.6
On a year earlier	16.1	44.7	22.4	—	−0.8	—	−1.7	9.4	17.1	−11.3	4.4

Unemployment data are defined and collected on different bases in different countries. The following notes indicate main variations preventing direct international comparison. [1] Registered unemployed (excluding school leavers): rate per cent of total employees. [2] Insured unemployed: rate per cent of total insured population. [3] Labour force sample survey: rate per cent of total labour force. [4] Unemployment-insurance beneficiaries: rate per cent of total numbers insured. [5] Estimated in the absence of one month's figures. [6] Averaged over component months. Rates per cent relate to the last period for which unemployment figures are given. [7] Some seasonally adjusted data have been estimated from unadjusted material. [8] UK per cent changes are calculated with a non-rounded series. [9] From 1977, new method of calculating unemployment which is not consistent with the other figures. e Estimated. n.a. Not available. r Revised. Source: 'OECD Main Economic Indicators' and *Department of Employment Gazette*.

Table 4 Earnings/wages per head in manufacturing

Indices 1970 = 100

	Belgium [3]	Denmark [1 2]	France [3]	FR of Germany [3]	Ireland [2]	Italy [3]	Nether-lands [3]	Great Britain [6]	Canada [7 8]	United States [2 4]	Japan [5 8]
1971	111	115	110	113	116	112	112	111	109	106	114
1972	126	129	121	123	133	124	126	126	118	113	132
1973	147	153	138	135	159	156	143	142	128	121	163
1974	178	186	161	151	191	191	169	166	145	131	205
1975	210	222	184	165	246	241	192	209	168	143	229
1976	235	248	210	174		292	208	244	191	154	258
1973 1st quarter	140	137	129	131	145	137	137	134	123	118	148
2nd	144	151	133	134	157	151	140	139	126	120	155
3rd	149	160	138	137	164	161	146	144	129	122	162
4th	154	168	144	138	168	168	148	150	133	124	174
1974 1st quarter	162	172	147	146	172	176	159	147	136	126	178
2nd	173	184	155	151	188	184	167	159	141	129	203
3rd	184	189	164	154	196	194	173	172	149	133	211
4th	192	201	169	156	207	204	174	185	155	137	216
1975 1st quarter	201	209	175	162	222	228	184	194	161	140	222
2nd	207	221	180	164	241	240	188	202	166	141	219
3rd	213	224	189	166	255	247	196	215	170	144	234
4th	221	233	192	167	265	251	197	226	175	147	237
1976 1st quarter	227	237	198	170	272	258	206	233	183	150	249
2nd	232	247	207	174	280	280	206	242	190	152	251
3rd	238	250	215	176	290	310	209	247	194	156	259
4th	244	258	222	176		322	212	255	197	159	267
1977 1st quarter	252	259	227	184		344	216	260	205	162	275
2nd		272	232	187		367	217	266	210	165	280
% change latest quarter											
On previous quarter	3.3	5.0	2.2	1.6	3.6	6.7	0.5	2.3	2.4	1.9	1.8
On a year earlier	11.0	10.1	12.1	7.5	13.7	31.1	5.3	9.9	10.5	8.6	11.6

[1] Including mining. [2] Earnings. [3] Hourly rates industry: males. [4] Gross hourly earnings per productive worker. [5] Monthly earnings in manufacturing: regular workers. [6] Weekly earnings all employees. [7] Hourly earnings for firms employing 20 persons and over. [8] Seasonally adjusted.

Sources: All countries 'OECD Main Economic Indicators', except German Federal Republic ('Monatsberiche der Deutschen Bundesbank'. Reihe 4). Italy ('I.L.O. Yearbook' and M.E.I.') and Great Britain (*Department of Employment Gazette* and 'M.E.I.').

Table 5 Consumer prices All goods and services

Indices 1970 = 100

	Belgium	Luxem-bourg	Denmark	France	F.R. of Germany	Ireland	Italy	Nether-lands	United Kingdom	EEC	Canada	United States	Japan	OECD
1971	104.3	104.7	106	105.3	105.3	108.9	104.8	107.5	109.4	106	102.9	104.3	106.1	105
1972	110.0	110.1	113	111.7	111.1	118.4	110.8	115.9	117.2	113	107.8	107.7	110.9	110
1973	117.7	116.8	123	119.9	118.8	131.8	122.4	125.2	128.0	122	116.0	114.4	124.5	119
1974	132.6	128.0	142	136.3	127.1	154.2	146.2	137.3	148.4	138	128.6	127.0	154.2	134
1975	149.6	141.7	156	152.2	134.7	186.4	171.3	151.3	184.4	157	142.5	138.6	172.4	150
1976	163.2	155.6	170	166.8	140.8	219.9	199.6	164.6	214.9	175	153.2	146.6	188.4	163
1975 1st quarter	143.9	136.3	152	147.0	132.0	177.7	164.9	145.8	166.9	150	137.1	135.0	166.4	144
2nd	147.7	140.1	156	150.6	134.5	188.5	169.3	149.9	182.7	156	140.1	137.1	172.1	148
3rd	151.1	143.1	158	153.9	135.5	187.1	172.9	152.9	190.8	160	144.9	140.1	173.6	151
4th	155.5	147.3	157	157.3	136.7	192.2	178.1	156.3	197.3	163	147.9	142.3	177.7	155
1976 1st quarter	158.7	151.1	162	161.1	139.0	206.3	184.8	159.0	204.4	168	149.8	143.7	181.4	158
2nd	161.8	154.5	168	164.8	141.1	219.1	196.5	164.3	211.9	173	152.1	145.5	187.7	161
3rd	164.9	156.9	171	168.6	141.2	222.4	201.7	165.4	216.8	176	154.3	147.8	189 8	164
4th	187.6	159.7	178	172.9	141.9	231.8	215.5	169.6	226.8	182	156.6	149.4	194.5	168
1977 1st quarter	170.9	163.4	180	175.6	144.6	240.6	225.2	170.8	238.2	188	159.9	152.1	198.8	172
2nd	173.7	165.9	185	181.0	146.5	249.7	233.8	175.8	248.8	194	163.7	155.3	204.2	176
3rd	176.3	167.0	190	185.3	146.8	252.4	239.3 e	176.8	252.7	197 e	167.2	157.6	204.8	179 e
1976 January	158.0	150.5	159	159.9	138.2		181.1	157.5	202.3	166	149.3	143.3	180.4	157
February	158.5	151.3	160	161.0	139.2	206.3	185.1	159.0	204.9	168	149.8	143.7	181.6	158
March	159.5	151.6	167	162.4	139.7		188.8	160.5	206.0	170	150.4	144.0	182.3	159
April	161.0	153.8	167	163.8	140.6		193.8	163.0	210.0	172	151.0	144.6	187.2	160
May	162.2	154.7	169	164.9	141.1	219.1	197.7	164.5	212.3	174	152.3	145.5	187.7	161
June	162.4	154.9	169	165.6	141.5		198.6	164.5	213.4	174	153.0	146.3	188.1	162
July	163.7	156.1	169	167.2	140.9		199.6	163.7	213.8	175	153.6	147.1	189.1	163
August	164.4	157.3	170	168.4	141.4	222.4	201.8	165.4	216.8	176	154.3	147.8	187.6	164
September	166.5	157.5	174	170.2	141.4		205.2	167.2	219.7	178	155.0	148.4	192.6	165
October	166.9	158.7	176	171.8	141.5		211.1	169.5	223.7	181	156.1	149.0	193.8	167
November	167.5	159.7	178	173.2	141.8	231.8	215.7	169.7	226.8	182	156.6	149.4	193.8	167
December	168.4	160.8	179	173.8	142.5		218.6	169.7	229.8	184	157.1	149.9	195.8	169
1977 January	170.1	162.4	179	174.3	143.8		221.4	169.5	235.9	186	158.4	150.7	197.7	170
February	171.4	163.5	179	175.5	144.7	240.7	225.7	170.8	238.2	188	159.9	152.3	198.8	172
March	171.3	164.2	181	177.1	145.2		228.5	172.2	240.5	190	161.5	153.2	200.0	173
April	172.2	165.2	183	179.4	145.9		231.3	175.1	246.7	192	162.4	154.4	203.3	175
May	173.9	165.8	186	181.1	146.5	249.7	234.2	176.0	248.6	194	163.8	155.3	205.2	176
June	175.0	166.7	187	182.5	147.2		235.8	176.4	251.2	195	164.9	156.3	204.1	178
July	175.5	167.4	188	184.1	147.0		237.2	176.1	251.4	196	166.5	157.0	203.6	178
August	176.1	167.0	190	185.1	146.9	252.4	239.3	176.7	252.7	197	167.2	157.6	203.6	179
September	177.3	166.6	192	180.8	146.6		241.5 e	177.7	254.0	198 e	168.0	158.2	207.3	180 e
October	177.7	167.3			146.7 e			178.4	255.1		169.4 e	158.7		
% change														
latest month on same month a year earlier	6.5	5.4	10.3	9.8	3.7	—	17.7	5.3	14.1	11.2	8.5	6.5	7.6	9.7
latest three months on previous three months	1.3	0.2	2.5	2.4	−0.1	1.1	2.3	0.8	1.4	1.7	1.9	1.3	0.3	1.7
on previous three months on a year earlier	6.7	5.8	11.1	9.9	3.7	13.5	18.3	6.1	15.4	11.7	8.4	6.6	7.9	9.3

Source: OECD main economic indicators.

Table 6 World trade

Quarter or quarterly averages, seasonally adjusted — US $ thousand million

	Exports (fob) from			Imports (cif) into		
	World [1]	OECD	Rest of world	World [1]	OECD	Rest of world
1970	69.69	55.01	14.68	56.41	56.41	16.05
1971	78.15	61.51	16.64	81.12	62.68	18.44
1972	92.91	72.70	20.21	94.65	74.50	20 15
1973	131 88	99.72	32.16	132.38	102.71	29.67
1974	193.66	133.23	60.43	194.37	145.77	48.69
1975	199.19	141.81	57.38	202.24	146.42	55.82
1976	225.82	157.02	68.80	229.16	168.23	60.93
1973 1st quarter	113.31	86.67	26.74	113.74	88.66	25.08
2nd	124.86	95.29	29.57	125.10	97.65	27.45
3rd	139.33	105.59	33.74	139.82	108.82	31.00
4th	149.85	111.26	38.59	150.95	115.79	35.16
1974 1st quarter	176.22	118.94	57.28	168.21	129.17	38.04
2nd	194.49	133.12	61.37	195.10	146.54	48.56
3rd	199.71	137.90	61.81	203.95	152.91	51.04
4th	203.47	142.23	61.24	208.92	153.18	55.74
1975 1st quarter	201.21	147.07	55.14	204.21	150.34	53.87
2nd	196.40	140.31	56.09	197.62	142.73	54.89
3rd	196.82	136.89	59.93	196.28	141.16	55.02
4th	202.35	143.98	58.37	209.84	150.36	59.48
1976 1st quarter	208.72	147.45	61.27	211.34	156.07	56.27
2nd	220.18	153.06	67.12	220.47	161.31	59.16
3rd	232.04	160.50	71.54	234.84	172.82	62.02
4th	242.31	167.06	75.25	249.98	183.70	66.28
1977 1st quarter	246.88	171.98	74.90	256.11	186.81	69.30
2nd		175.59			189.22	
% change latest three months						
On previous three months	1.9	2.1	−0.5	2.5	1.3	4.6
On a year earlier	18.3	14.7	22.2	21.2	17.3	23.2

[1] Excludes centrally planned economies.
Source: 'OECD Series "A" ' and IMF International Financial Statistics.

Table 7 Industrial countries' trade

Quarters or quarterly averages, seasonally adjusted — US $ thousand million

	Exports (fob) to			Imports (cif)[3] from		
	World	OECD	Rest of world [2]	World	OECD	Rest of world [2]
1970	55.01	41.03	13.98	56.41	42.50	13.91
1971	61.51	45.89	15.62	62.68	47.29	15.39
1972	72.70	55.02	17.68	74 50	56.43	18.07
1973	99.72	74.57	25.15	102.71	76.24	20.47
1974	133.23	95.16	38.07	145.77	97.74	48.03
1975	141.81	96.07	45.74	146.42	99 82	46.60
1976	157.02	109.67	47.35	168.23	112.55	55.68
1973 1st quarter	86.57	65.77	20.80	88.66	67.35	21.31
2nd	95.29	71.49	23.80	97.65	73.10	24.55
3rd	105.59	78.63	26.96	108.82	80.89	27.93
4th	111.26	82.47	28.79	115.79	83.38	32.21
1974 1st quarter	118.94	87.26	31.68	129.17	88.34	40.83
2nd	133.12	96.09	37.03	146.54	97.94	48.60
3rd	137.90	97.70	40.20	152.91	101.13	51.78
4th	142.25	99.27	42.98	153.18	102.30	50.88
1975 1st quarter	146.07	99.70	46.37	150.34	104.30	46.31
2nd	140.31	94.30	46.01	142.73	98.63	44.11
3rd	136.89	91.90	44.99	142.26	95.81	46.45
4th	143.98	98.37	45.61	150.36	100.55	49.81
1976 1st quarter	147.45	103.07	44.38	155.07	104.93	50.14
2nd	152.06	107.10	45.96	161.31	108.88	52.43
3rd	160.50	111.38	49.12	172.82	114.09	58.73
4th	167.06	117.14	49.92	183.70	122.28	61.42
1977 1st quarter	171.98	121.82	50.16	186.81	123.40	63.41
2nd	175.59	122.54	53.05	189.22	125.55	63.67
% change latest three months						
On previous three months	2.1	0.6	5.8	1.3	1.7	0.4
On a year earlier	14.7	14.4	15.4	17.3	15.3	21.4

[2] Includes goods for which no destination is given. [3] Imports into Canada and the United States are valued fob.
Source: 'OECD Series "A" '.

Table 8 Exports (fob) Special trade[1], seasonally adjusted

US $ million

	Belgium/ Luxembourg	Denmark [2]	France	F.R. of Germany	Ireland [2]	Italy	Nether-lands	United Kingdom [2]	EEC	Canada	United States [2]	Japan [2]	OECD
1970	11 592	3 288	17 940	34 188	1 032	13 188	11 772	19 382	112 356	16 134	43 224	19 320	220 045
1971	12 081	3 609	20 592	39 009	1 308	15 177	13 953	22 365	128 084	17 676	44 211	23 994	246 037
1972	15 995	4 330	25 739	46 208	1 610	18 535	15 392	24 415	153 152	20 184	49 676	28 591	290 784
1973	22 416	6 120	35 952	67 440	2 124	22 236	23 952	30 662	210 684	25 200	71 316	36 936	398 88C
1974	28 260	7 716	45 900	89 160	2 628	30 288	32 436	38 827	275 100	32 784	98 508	55 536	532 932
1975	28 812	8 712	52 212	90 024	3 216	34 824	34 440	44 260	295 992	32 304	107 652	55 752	567 804
1976	32 844	9 108	55 812	102 036	3 312	36 924	38 748	46 541	325 044	38 628	114 996	67 272	630 504
1975 1st quarter	7 731	2 172	13 434	23 481	783	8 685	8 823	11 353	76 542	8 022	27 114	14 781	146 070
2nd	6 981	2 196	13 248	23 025	753	8 571	8 565	10 978	74 367	7 890	25 803	13 734	140 847
3rd	6 540	2 073	12 591	21 279	798	8 646	8 052	10 562	70 488	7 842	27 171	13 344	136 887
4th	7 305	2 243	12 939	22 329	834	8 943	9 009	11 214	74 763	8 220	27 837	14 130	143 982
1976 1st quarter	7 467	2 136	13 395	23 427	735	8 427	8 949	11 477	76 086	9 102	26 190	15 729	147 453
2nd	7 701	2 223	13 893	24 441	820	8 919	8 733	11 399	78 183	9 555	28 668	16 443	153 063
3rd	8 151	2 340	13 881	25 851	832	9 327	9 858	11 480	81 696	9 996	29 649	16 977	160 509
4th	9 207	2 433	14 556	27 768	903	10 089	11 241	11 932	88 107	9 402	29 499	17 685	167 034
1977 1st quarter	9 156	2 547	15 282	28 134	957	10 395	10 690	13 003	90 120	10 359	29 746	19 746	171 954
2nd	9 066	2 362	15 303	28 615	1 004	11 571	10 329	14 323	92 552	10 211	31 329	19 664	175 615
3rd								14 989					
1976 April	2 550	723	4 568	7 981	290	2 775	2 890	3 768	25 551	3 094	9 114	5 299	49 504
May	2 622	780	4 899	8 459	274	3 319	3 009	3 819	27 230	3 095	9 889	5 648	52 484
June	2 594	738	4 488	8 100	249	2 725	2 785	3 807	25 511	3 389	9 689	5 640	51 276
July	2 364	757	4 435	8 040	266	3 131	3 123	3 674	25 800	3 253	9 905	5 576	51 770
August	2 766	785	4 713	8 378	257	3 032	3 381	3 884	27 157	3 432	9 843	5 545	53 289
September	3 021	798	4 733	9 434	308	3 165	3 353	3 915	28 738	3 313	9 902	5 857	55 449
October	3 148	767	4 753	9 024	323	3 387	3 435	3 865	28 710	3 138	9 725	5 988	54 652
November	2 880	827	4 782	9 097	290	3 493	3 846	3 887	29 069	3 021	9 342	5 733	54 696
December	3 179	840	5 021	9 648	291	3 208	3 960	4 182	30 326	3 244	10 433	5 964	57 713
1977 January	3 032	852	5 175	9 285	309	3 517	3 654	4 356	30 164	3 308	9 597	6 696	57 100
February	2 950	816	5 058	9 147	323	3 299	3 643	4 302	29 521	3 378	9 801	6 499	56 507
March	3 174	880	5 049	9 702	325	3 578	3 393	4 345	30 435	3 677	10 066	6 551	58 373
April	2 997	847	4 968	9 093	334	3 883	3 542	4 709	30 364	3 451	9 949	6 894	57 981
May	2 946	722	5 314	9 584	327	3 819	3 431	4 652	30 792	3 283	10 540	6 282	58 238
June	3 123	793	5 021	9 938	342	3 867	3 356	4 962	31 396	3 477	10 084	6 494	59 374
July	2 851	813	5 031	9 236	402	3 499	3 592	5 033	30 453	3 564	10 279	6 949	58 714
August		843	5 375	9 681	389			4 835		3 547	9 675		
September								5 120					
October								5 034					
% change latest three months:													
On previous three months	−2.2	—	0.6	1.7	14.9	3.9	−1.9	2.3	2.6	1.7	−1.7	−1.1	2.0
One year earlier	17.7	7.4	13.1	17.7	46.8	21.9	16.4	28.5	18.0	5.1	2.0	17.0	13.4

[1] For most purposes special trade may be defined as trade excluding re-exports. [2] General trade. r Revised.
Source: United Kingdom: Department of Trade. All others: 'OECD Series "A" '.

Estimates of both export and import volume indicates a fall in the third quarter this year.

Conditions in the labour market, lately, appear to have improved. Unemployment as a percentage of the labour force has fallen from nearly 8 per cent in the third quarter of 1976 to under 7 per cent in the third quarter of this year. The disparity in job performance among different sectors of the population, however, is becoming more pronounced. Throughout 1977 the USA has held an annual inflation rate below the OECD average. The slightly increased second quarter rate of 6½ per cent was maintained in the third quarter.

Canada

After a brief period of sharp recovery in the first quarter of 1977 real GNP fell by 1½ per cent in the second quarter and was also below its corresponding 1976 level. Similarly, following a sharp rise in the first quarter industrial production stagnated in the second. Moreover, it showed little signs of improve-

Table 9 **Imports (cif)** Special trade[1], seasonally adjusted

US $ million

	Belgium/ Luxembourg	Denmark [2]	France	F.R. of Germany	Ireland [2]	Italy	Nether- lands	United Kingdom [2]	EEC	Canada	United States [2]	Japan	OECD
1970	11 352	4 380	19 116	29 808	1 572	14 940	13 392	21 696	116 280	13 308	39 960	18 876	225 649
1971	12 390	4 476	21 261	34 356	1 838	16 026	15 159	23 918	129 403	15 460	45 633	19 716	250 717
1972	14 879	4 988	26 696	39 759	2 113	19 252	17 127	27 877	152 643	18 924	55 819	23 463	297 984
1973	21 936	7 704	37 380	54 492	2 784	27 816	24 360	38 872	215 232	23 304	69 120	38 315	410 820
1974	29 700	9 852	52 824	68 976	3 816	40 968	33 204	54 344	293 568	32 292	100 968	62 112	583 020
1975	30 708	10 332	54 240	74 208	3 804	38 364	35 148	53 608	300 048	33 960	96 936	57 864	587 376
1976	33 352	12 336	64 392	87 780	4 200	43 368	39 348	56 269	343 428	37 956	121 788	64 776	672 906
1975 1st quarter	7 467	2 424	13 902	18 552	981	9 471	9 240	14 228	76 083	8 568	24 813	14 832	150 342
2nd	7 314	2 412	13 176	18 630	924	9 024	8 739	12 957	73 311	8 457	22 683	13 779	143 442
3rd	6 945	2 478	12 879	17 982	903	9 381	8 202	13 175	71 949	8 337	24 030	14 337	142 257
4th	7 614	2 841	14 277	19 128	1 008	10 410	9 039	13 103	77 517	8 556	25 410	14 964	150 357
1976 1st quarter	7 743	2 874	15 015	19 956	1 023	10 035	8 847	13 339	78 741	9 240	27 333	14 973	155 073
2nd	7 986	2 982	15 399	20 775	975	10 578	9 444	13 848	82 083	9 630	29 295	15 300	161 313
3rd	8 286	3 126	16 335	22 431	1 059	10 620	10 002	14 301	86 244	9 612	32 043	17 004	172 821
4th	9 225	3 354	17 628	24 240	1 125	12 057	11 658	14 411	93 867	9 405	32 631	17 427	183 699
1977 1st quarter	9 645	3 381	17 568	24 351	1 296	11 832	11 385	15 352	94 824	9 876	35 439	17 721	186 828
2nd	9 465	3 211	17 082	23 882	1 237	12 214	11 182	16 461	94 779	10 182	37 685	17 125	189 028
3rd								15 806					
1976 April	2 661	999	5 020	7 146	321	3 641	3 282	4 540	27 602	3 238	9 651	4 975	53 786
May	2 822	987	5 479	6 983	338	3 962	3 176	4 612	28 093	3 070	9 192	4 899	53 962
June	2 572	995	4 852	6 680	326	3 280	3 014	4 689	26 389	3 294	9 883	5 120	53 565
July	2 639	908	4 941	7 089	332	3 422	3 238	4 809	27 426	3 199	10 992	5 473	55 988
August	2 767	1 079	5 498	7 778	350	3 643	3 415	4 626	29 150	3 268	10 377	5 699	58 019
September	2 885	1 139	5 896	7 563	376	3 555	3 350	4 860	29 668	3 144	10 673	5 833	58 814
October	3 028	1 048	5 825	7 748	355	3 782	3 645	4 660	30 171	3 066	10 748	5 785	58 946
November	3 088	1 089	6 064	7 763	392	4 532	3 567	4 881	31 495	3 230	10 679	6 054	61 874
December	3 109	1 217	5 740	8 730	378	3 742	4 446	4 869	32 203	3 108	11 204	5 588	62 879
1977 January	3 346	1 090	6 053	8 349	463	3 870	4 075	5 531	32 781	3 257	11 430	6 173	63 065
February	3 070	1 062	5 725	7 818	418	3 995	3 803	4 881	30 777	3 326	11 582	5 677	61 071
March	3 229	1 230	5 791	8 183	415	3 968	3 505	4 939	31 264	3 294	12 427	5 873	62 675
April	3 171	1 042	5 412	7 707	399	4 240	3 764	5 194	30 945	3 482	12 721	5 742	62 272
May	3 153	1 042	5 672	8 112	418	4 276	3 723	5 405	31 811	3 394	12 050	5 785	62 751
June	3 141	1 127	5 998	8 063	429	3 699	3 695	5 863	32 023	3 316	12 914	5 614	64 194
July	2 828	1 029	5 478	8 563	451	3 622	3 792	5 483	31 275	3 339	12 877	5 731	63 203
August		1 125	6 060	8 393	457			4 945		3 247	11 984		
September								5 378					
October								5 343					
% change latest three months:													
On previous three months	−3.7	−1.0	3.9	8.5	8.5	−5.0	1.2	−6.5	2.3	−2.6	1.6	−0.9	2.2
One year earlier	13.6	10.0	14.7	16.1	32.6	8.7	18.9	10.7	16.1	1.4	20.9	10.6	16.3

[1] For most purposes special trade may be defined as trade excluding re-exports. [2] General trade. [3] fob. r Revised.

Source: United Kingdom: Department of Trade. All others: 'OECD Series "A" '.

Table 10 **Balance of payments on current account**

US $ million (unadjusted)

	Belgium/ Luxembourg	Denmark	France	F.R. of Germany	Ireland	Italy	Nether- lands	United Kingdom	EEC	Canada	United States	Japan
1970	713	−544	297	848	−183	902	−522	1 759	3 270	1 077	2 383	1 970
1971	846	−423	530	874	−183	2 041	−159	2 646	6 172	423	−1 328	5 797
1972	1 142	−63	297	748	−125	2 266	1 290	328	5 883	−384	−5 824	6 624
1973	1 153	−464	−691	4 372	−224	−2 510	2 343	−1 844	2 135	94	6 892	−136
1974	911	−981	−5 942	9 722	−679	−8 039	2 057	−7 910	−10 861	−1 520	1 171	−4 693
1975	700	−492	−3	3 896	−66	−530	1 662	−3 633	1 534	−4 900	17 739	−682
1976	−304	−1 906	−6 033	3 396	−271	−2 856	2 372	−2 570	−8 172	−4 373	−3 501	3 680
1973 1st quarter	368	−148	−225	564		−699	491	−787		−344	904	494
2nd	186	−177	280	1 042		−736	680	73		152	871	−416
3rd	221	+69	−542	831		−15	66	−461		227	930	101
4th	378	−208	−204	1 935		−1 060	1 136	−669		59	4 187	−315
1974 1st quarter	338	−524	−1 604	2 763		−2 482	477	−2 126		−568	1 275	−3 289
2nd	−122	−316	−1 862	2 222		−2 479	541	−1 974		−141	−193	−2 403
3rd	320	−147	−1 928	869		−1 439	572	−1 937		1	−2 446	−134
4th	375	+6	−548	3 868		−1 639	467	1 873		−812	2 535	1 133
1975 1st quarter	553	−85	−371	2 234		−460	144	−1 573		−1 884	4 355	−925
2nd	81	+56	942	792		142	646	−748		−1 119	5 448	−300
3rd	−95	−81	−128	−456		859	196	−1 102		−703	1 828	−23
4th	161	−382	−446	1 326		−1 071	676	−210		−1 194	6 108	566
1976 1st quarter	−412	−584	−1 313	1 352		−1 414	828	−466		−1 878	2 685	−110
2nd	80	−416	−522	801		−1 339	155	−877		−1 102	2 515	941
3rd	−352	−402	−2 473	−512		734	485	−667		−128	−2 499	984
4th	380	−504	−1 725	1 755		−837	904	−560		−1 265	800	1,865
1977 1st quarter	−5	−470	−1 660	819		−2 050 e	250	−660			−2 343	893
2nd	−190	−410		1 451			−230	−473			−3 612	2 218
3rd		−460					−100	+969				3 354

Source: UK Economic Trends. All others: IMF International Finance Statistics

ment in the three months to August, compared with the previous three months.

Between the first eight months of 1976 and 1977 exports (measured in US dollars) have grown nearly twice as fast as imports. Recent estimates for the third quarter indicate an increase in export volume in the order of 3½ per cent and a fall in import volume of 5 per cent. It appears that the effects of the recent sharp Canadian dollar devaluation have been reflected strongly in these figures.

Since the fall in May unemployment has increased in each month reaching 8½ per cent (of the working population) by October. This represents the highest rate since the 1930s. The rate of consumer price inflation, which had been the most encouraging feature of 1976, rose in each quarter of 1977, from 6½ per cent in the first to 7½ per cent in the second, and 8½ per cent in the third.

Japan

The economy continued to recover in the second quarter of 1977 although at a slower pace than in the first. Real GNP grew by 5½ per cent at an annual rate. Industrial production, increasing by 3 per cent at an annual rate, advanced slightly faster than it had done in the previous quarter. Production, however, is estimated to have fallen in the third quarter.

Exports, the mainstay of recovery, fell in terms of value between the first and second quarters. In value terms exports are estimated to have risen by 4½ per cent in the third quarter after falling by 3 per cent in the second. Imports (measured by both value and volume) fell in the second quarter and are estimated to have fallen further in the third. Between the first half of 1976 and 1977 the seasonally adjusted crude trade balance surplus increased from $2 billion to $4½ billion. The size of this surplus has led to some considerable concern from Japan's major trading partners recently.

The rate of unemployment in Japan, still high by past standards, has increased to over 2 per cent since the summer months. On the other hand inflation (measured by consumer price increases) has improved. The annual rate decreased from 9½ per cent in the first quarter to 8 per cent by the third quarter.

Germany

Following rapid increases around the turn of

Table 11 Export volume (1970 = 100)

	Belgium/ Luxembourg	Denmark	France	F.R. of Germany	Ireland	Italy	Nether- lands	United Kingdom	EEC	Canada	United States	Japan	OECD
1971	107	105	108	106	116	108	113	109	108	106	99	121	107
1972	123	113	124	115	122	121	121	111	117	115	108	129	116
1973	139	124	137	135	135	124	143	126	133	127	133	136	132
1974	140	132	150	150	141	133	145	133	142	122	145	158	140
1975	131	133	146	134	153	135	139	130	134	112	141	161	134
1976	149	134	157	153	160	152	153	139	149	127	145	195	148
1974 1st quarter	142	134	153	155	143	132	145	126	144	122	140	142	139
2nd	143	128	149	149	135	128	145	134	142	118	148	156	141
3rd	137	134	148	148	140	136	148	138	142	123	144	160	141
4th	134	133	149	147	152	131	144	131	139	117	143	166	140
1975 1st quarter	131	126	148	134	150	133	135	133	135	111	141	159	134
2nd	121	127	140	131	135	132	132	127	130	112	137	151	130
3rd	124	126	141	132	157	135	137	126	132	110	143	155	132
4th	140	138	146	141	164	142	152	134	141	112	146	172	140
1976 1st quarter	141	128	149	146	142	145	147	135	143	121	138	194	143
2nd	143	131	158	150	158	151	143	140	147	126	146	195	147
3rd	147	138	159	157	159	150	155	137	149	130	149	194	151
4th	157	137	163	158	175	159	169	145	157	124	145	193	154
1977 1st quarter	157	141	165	158	175	157	157	136	155	137	144	207	154
2nd	151	129	164	159	175	180	147	155	157	135	147	201	156
3rd		135 e	165 e	157 e				157		140 e	145 e	210 e	
% change latest three months:													
On previous three months	−3.8	4.7	0.6	−1.3	—	14.6	−6.4	1.3	1.3	3.7	−1.4	4.5	1.3
On a year earlier	5.6	−2.2	3.8	—	10.8	19.2	2.8	14.6	6.8	7.7	−2.7	8.2	6.1

The volume figures are derived from the figures in table 8 and the average value indices published by the OECD converted to dollar terms.

Source: United Kingdom: Department of Trade

Table 12 Import volume (1970 = 100)

	Belgium/ Luxembourg	Denmark	France	F.R. of Germany	Ireland	Italy	Nether- lands	United Kingdom	EEC	Canada	United States	Japan	OECD
1971	107	98	107	111	108	101	105	105	106	110	109	100	105
1972	119	101	123	122	116	111	111	116	116	129	123	113	117
1973	138	120	140	130	138	125	127	133	130	149	130	145	131
1974	143	114	146	127	136	118	120	134	128	164	126	141	130
1975	135	108	135	130	117	105	115	124	121	155	122	123	121
1976	152	127	162	152	140	121	127	133	139	167	136	137	137
1974 1st quarter	143	120	151	123	132	124	119	132	129	162	126	147	131
2nd	141	110	147	125	139	116	118	137	127	160	127	140	129
3rd	138	104	145	129	136	122	122	135	128	167	130	142	131
4th	130	100	140	130	120	112	117	131	124	163	126	139	128
1975 1st quarter	126	97	133	125	119	100	114	126	118	156	113	121	119
2nd	125	96	128	127	111	96	109	119	115	155	103	115	115
3rd	126	106	133	131	117	105	111	126	120	152	113	125	120
4th	133	123	148	139	132	117	121	127	130	158	119	129	127
1976 1st quarter	138	122	153	143	135	121	116	126	131	164	125	128	130
2nd	141	125	158	148	136	116	124	134	135	168	132	132	133
3rd	142	128	166	153	140	114	126	136	138	167	142	143	139
4th	152	131	173	162	151	130	141	138	147	167	143	143	145
1977 1st quarter	156	128	167	159	159	123	137	140	143	170	151	141	144
2nd	148	121	159	153	148	130	131	145	141	175	157	136	144
3rd		124 e	159 e	158 e				140		166 e	153 e	134 e	
% change latest three months:													
On previous three months	−5.1	2.5	—	3.3	−6.9	5.7	−4.4	−3.4	−1.4	−5.1	−2.5	−1.5	—
On a year earlier	5.0	−3.1	−4.2	3.3	8.8	12.1	5.6	2.9	4.4	−0.6	7.7	−6.3	8.3

The volume figures are derived from the value figures in table 9 and the average value indices published by the OECD converted to dollar terms.

Source: United Kingdom: Department of Trade

Table 13 Exports of manufactures by the main manufacturing countries

	Canada	United States[1]	Japan	Sweden	Switzerland	Belgium/ Luxembourg	France	F.R. of Germany	Italy	Nether-lands	United Kingdom (seasonally adjusted)	Total[1] (seasonally adjusted)	UK share per cent
Value US $ thousand million (fob)													
1970	2.39	7.17	4.53	1.31	1.16	2.40	3.40	7.67	2.77	1.70	4.08	38.57	10.6
1971	2.61	7.42	5.66	1.44	1.31	2.57	3.85	8.75	3.16	2.02	4.77	43.54	10.9
1972	2.94	8.27	6.77	1.68	1.57	3.31	4.76	10.38	3.91	2.53	5.16	51.27	10.1
1973	3.42	10.95	8.69	2.34	2.17	4.57	6.52	15.08	4.65	3.44	6.41	68.23	9.4
1974	4.13	15.57	13.12	3.03	2.73	5.76	8.40	19.74	6.22	4.74	8.01	91.44	8.8
1975	4.17	17.36	13.29	3.46	3.01	5.70	10.03	19.90	7.29	4.83	9.15	98.20	9.3
1976	5.16	18.99	16.17 p	3.69	3.39 p	6.48 p	10.78 p	22.67	7.80 p	5.52 p	9.64	110. 24 p	8.8 p
1973 1st quarter	3.30	9.89	7.10	2.11	1.84	3.92	5.69	12.42	3.52	3.22	5.80	60.07	9.7
2nd	3.51	11.04	8.17	2.28	2.12	4.42	6.67	14.33	4.46	3.39	6.43	64.71	9.9
3rd	2.94	10.52	9.06	2.18	2.23	4.62	6.27	16.18	5.04	3.41	6.70	72.34	9.3
4th	3.93	12.33	10.41	2.77	2.49	5.33	7.47	17.37	5.60	3.74	6.70	75.79	8.8
1974 1st quarter	3.72	14.09	9.66	2.53	2.45	5.02	7.40	17.83	5.17	4.19	6.89	80.63	8.5
2nd	4.19	16.05	13.07	3.16	2.79	6.34	8.69	20.22	5.88	5.02	7.84	90.45	8.7
3rd	3.97	15.15	14.07	2.95	2.34	5.50	8.11	19.38	6.79	4.83	9.03	95.98	9.4
4th	4.64	16.97	15.70	3.49	3.33	6.17	9.40	21.53	7.04	4.91	8.29	98.72	8.4
1975 1st quarter	3.97	16.89	12.51	3.54	2.95	6.16	10.25	19.78	6.92	4.86	9.37	99.24	9.4
2nd	4.35	17.93	13.04	3.77	3.13	6.00	10.98	21.02	7.28	5.13	9.11	98.67	9.2
3rd	3.73	16.48	13.14	2.91	2.71	4.72	8.62	18.40	7.19	4.16	8.77	94.97	9.2
4th	4.63	18.16	14.48	3.62	3.25	5.92	10.27	20.41	7.76	5.16	9.33	99.89	9.3
1976 1st quarter	4.63	18.20	13.80	3.52	3.03 p	6.07	10.40	20.80	6.81	4.92	9.58	104.44	9.2 p
2nd	5.58	19.92	15.75	3.67	3.38 p	6.64	11.23	21.90	7.46	5.28	9.49	106.47	8.9 p
3rd	4.99	17.95	16.88 p	3.45	3.20 p	5.83 p	9.58 p	22.26	7.87 p	5.33 p	9.60	111.72 p	8.6 p
4th	5.44	19.89	18.24 p	4.12	3.95 p	7.39 p	11.91 p	25.72	9.08 p	6.56 p	9.88	118.34 p	8.4 p
1977 1st quarter	5.78 p	19.40	17.26 p	3.88	3.57 p	7.25 p	11.98 p	24.73	8.45 p	5.90 p	10.57	121.94 p	8.7 p
2nd	6.27 p	20.59	19.08 p	4.00	3.77 p	7.46 p	12.53 p	25.38		5.92 p	11.56	121.73 p	9.5 p

												Relative volume UK as per-centage of total
Volume index 1970 = 100												
1971	106	101	120	105	103	106	108	106	107	115	110	108	102.3
1972	115	111	129	107	111	123	122	116	124	128	112	117	95.8
1973	128	135	136	125	122	138	134	134	133	146	128	133	96.2
1974	129	158	159	134	127	140	152	150	146	155	135	148	91.2
1975	123	152	162	126	115	128	149	133	146	146	130	141	92.8
1976	139	156	201 p	129	130 p	147 p		152	166	167 p	140	156 p	89.7 p
1973 1st quarter	125	128	125	125	117	134	133	128	107	153	124	130	95.3
2nd	131	139	133	124	120	137	139	133	133	148	126	129	97.8
3rd	111	129	136	109	115	130	121	130	139	136	130	134	97.4
4th	143	143	149	143	134	151	145	144	152	145	131	139	94.3
1974 1st quarter	122	155	129	131	128	139	155	151	140	152	130	145	89.2
2nd	131	170	158	138	132	153	162	151	143	165	135	147	91.7
3rd	122	149	168	125	108	129	140	144	150	153	141	150	93.5
4th	141	160	182	143	139	140	153	153	149	151	133	148	90.1
1975 1st quarter	112	151	144	128	110	129	153	127	136	137	134	138	96.9
2nd	127	157	153	131	121	130	155	135	144	147	127	137	92.7
3rd	113	144	162	110	99	112	132	127	145	133	127	139	91.6
4th	138	156	189	135	129	143	157	144	158	167	133	148	90.3
1976 1st quarter	125	153	182	129	120 p	143		145	153	156	137	153 p	89.6 p
2nd	148	165	201	131	130 p	154		150	167	165	141	154 p	91.3 p
3rd	133	147	207 p	121	123 p	133 p		148	161	162 p	139	157 p	88.4 p
4th	149	158	212 p	135	148 p	159 p		163	183	186 p	144	161 p	89.5 p
1977 1st quarter	151 p	155	193 p	124	134 p			155			144	162 p	89.0 p
2nd	165 p	163	209 p					158			154	160 p	96.5 p

												Weighted average ex UK	Ratio of UK to weighted average
Unit value index in US $ 1970 = 100													
1975 weights	0.0419	0.1738	0.1552	0.0436	0.0343	0.0587	0.1132	0.2457	0.0825	0.0510			
1971	103	102	104	105	109	101	105	108	106	104	107	105	102.2
1972	107	104	116	120	122	112	115	117	114	117	116	113	102.6
1973	112	113	141	143	154	137	143	147	126	139	127	135	94.1
1974	134	137	181	173	185	171	162	172	154	178	152	163	93.1
1975	142	159	178	210	220	185	197	195	180	195	176	182	96.5
1976	156	170	178	218	224	184		195	169	194	175	184 p	94.8 p
1973 1st quarter	111	108	125	129	136	122	126	127	119	124	118	121	97.3
2nd	112	111	136	140	152	134	141	141	121	135	128	131	97.8
3rd	111	114	147	153	167	148	153	162	131	148	130	143	91.2
4th	115	120	154	149	160	147	152	157	133	152	131	144	90.7
1974 1st quarter	128	127	165	148	165	150	141	154	133	163	134	147	91.2
2nd	134	132	183	175	182	173	158	175	148	179	152	162	93.5
3rd	136	142	185	181	187	177	170	175	163	186	158	168	93.7
4th	138	148	190	187	206	183	181	183	171	192	164	175	93.8
1975 1st quarter	148	156	192	211	231	199	197	203	184	209	177	189	93.9
2nd	143	159	188	220	224	192	208	203	183	205	181	189	95.5
3rd	138	159	179	202	210	176	193	189	179	185	173	179	96.7
4th	141	162	169	206	217	172	193	185	177	182	173	177	97.8
1976 1st quarter	155	166	167	209	218	177		187	161	186	177	178 p	99.3 p
2nd	158	168	173	214	224	180		190	161	189	171	181 p	94.4 p
3rd	157	170	180	218	225	183		196	176	194	177	186 p	95.2 p
4th	153	175	190	234	230	194		206	179	208	175	193 p	90.4 p
1977 1st quarter	161	175	197	240	229			208			190	196 p	96.2 p
2nd	159	176	201					210			195		

[1] Excluding 'special category exports' for which detailed information on countries of destination is withheld by the United States authorities.

Sources: Values. United Kingdom and Total: DTI. Other countries: OECD updated from national sources. Volume. Derived from the value figures and the unit value index numbers. Unit values United Kingdom and Total: DTI. Other countries: United Nations. The weighting reflects the relative importance of each country in UK's overseas markets. The ratio indicates the UK competitive position.

the year industrial production fell in both the second and third quarters. Between the first half of 1976 and 1977 production increased by 4 per cent, a rate below the OECD average.

Export value increased by only 1½ per cent in the three months to August compared with the previous three months and export volume appears to have fallen in the third quarter of the year. Imports, on the other hand, have revived in the latest three months, increasing in value by 4½ per cent over the previous three months, and in volume terms by about 3 per cent in the third quarter. In part these movements may reflect the rise in the value of the deutsche mark more than offsetting the inflation differential between Germany and her major trading partners.

During the latter part of last year and the first half of this year conditions in the labour market improved a little. Following the slowdown in economic activity unemployment in the third quarter returned to the average 1976 level. The annual rate of consumer price inflation was held to 4 per cent in the third quarter, the same rate as in the second quarter.

France

The pace of economic recovery in France slowed down in the second and third quarters of 1977. Industrial production fell in both quarters. Compared to levels recorded in the same periods a year earlier production was 5½ per cent higher in the first quarter, 2½ per cent higher in the second, and was unchanged in the third quarter.

Following strong growth in both export value and volume in the first quarter of 1977, exports (measured in US dollars) rose by only ½ per cent in the three months to August. The growth between the first and second quarters was even less. In volume terms exports were static. Import value, after falling slightly in the first quarter of 1977 fell by a further 3 per cent in the second quarter. However, the three months to August have seen some advance in import value; while import volume estimates show no change between second and third quarter levels.

Compared to a considerable improvement in the first quarter of the year, consumer price inflation increased to 10 per cent in the second quarter, and fell just below that level in the third. During the summer performance on the unemployment front deteriorated. It appears that only a small improvement has been made since then.

Italy

After falling by 7 per cent in the second quarter of 1977 industrial production is estimated to have fallen by a further 1 per cent in the third quarter. Compared with the same period in 1976 production declined by 2 per cent.

Export value has continued to grow at a faster pace than import value, following the currency depreciation stimulus. In the three months to July, compared with the previous three, exports increased by 4 per cent while imports fell by 5 per cent. Similarly, between the first seven months of 1976 and 1977 exports increased in value by 24½ per cent while imports rose by only 15 per cent. In the same periods the seasonally adjusted trade deficit was reduced from $3½ billion to just over $2 billion. Measured by volume exports and imports increased by 14½ per cent and 5½ per cent respectively.

The annual rate of increase in consumer price inflation slackened to 18 per cent in the third quarter following rates of 22 per cent in the first quarter and 19 per cent in the second.

Exports of manufactures

The dollar value of exports of manufactures by the main manufacturing countries is estimated to have fallen slightly in the second quarter of 1977. The growth in the first half of this year slackened to just under 6 per cent following the increase of 9 per cent between the second and first half of 1976. The United Kingdom share is calculated to have risen to just over 9 per cent in the first half of 1977. In volume terms the provisional figures suggest that there was a decline in the second quarter giving an increase of under 1 per cent for the first half of this year compared with the second half of 1976. From the limited information which is available on competitors prices it appears that following the improvement at the end of 1976 our competitive position deteriorated in the first half of 1977. The loss of competitiveness reflects the appreciation of sterling in the early months of the year.

Inquiries: 01-215 3442.

Office development permits: third quarter 1977

Floor area in office development permits issued by the Department of the Environment in the third quarter of 1977 was 3.0 million sq ft compared with 3.5 million sq ft in the third quarter of 1976 and a quarterly average of 3.6 million sq ft for 1976 as a whole. Thirty-one permits were issued in the third quarter of 1977, 30 less than in the corresponding quarter of 1976.

After deduction of relinquishments of existing offices and of floorspace covered by permits for the continuing use of existing offices included in the total figures, there was a potential addition to office space by way of new building and conversion of non-office premises to office use of 1.7 million sq ft in the third quarter of 1977. This compares with 2.0 million sq ft for the corresponding quarter of 1976 and a quarterly average of 1.8 million sq ft for 1976 as a whole.

Twelve of the 31 permits issued in the third quarter of 1977 were for office development in Central London and covered 1.2 million sq ft; 12 covering 1.3 million sq ft were for development in Greater London excluding the centre; and five covering 0.3 million sq ft for development in the Metropolitan region outside Greater London. Two permits for a total floorspace of 0.2 million sq ft were issued in the part of the south east planning region lying outside the Metropolitan region.

Tables showing office development permits since 1965 appeared in *Trade and Industry*, 25 March 1977.

Inquiries: 01-212 8563.

Office development permits: sub-divisions of south east planning region

	Central London			Rest of Greater London			Total Greater London			Metropolitan region (excluding Greater London)			Total Metropolitan region			South east (excluding Metropolitan region)			Total south east		
		Thousand sq ft			Thousand sq ft			Thousand sq ft			Thousand sq ft			Thousand sq ft			Thousand sq ft			Thousand sq ft	
	No.	Gross	Relinquished	No.	Gross	Relinquished	No.	Gross	Relinquished	No.	Gross	Relinquished	No.	Gross	Relinquished	No.	Gross	Relinquished	No.	Gross	Relinquished
1975	64	4 883	448	106	5 414	442	170	10 297	890	86	2 258	51	256	12 555	941	46	1 319	113	302	13 874	1 054
1976	75	6 545	1 119	82	3 376	155	157	9 921	1 274	66	2 714	71	223	12 635	1 345	38	1 791	71	261	14 426	1 416
1976																					
1st qtr	19	1 682	449	20	687	67	39	2 369	516	27	1 053	45	66	3 422	561	13	627	3	79	4 049	564
2nd	15	957	112	23	958	82	38	1 915	194	19	871	6	57	2 786	200	12	408	—	69	3 194	200
3rd	21	1 893	311	22	935	1	43	2 828	312	12	376	16	55	3 204	328	6	325	68	61	3 529	396
4th	20	2 013	247	17	796	5	37	2 809	252	8	414	4	45	3 223	256	7	431	—	52	3 654	256
1977																					
1st qtr	13	798	100	14	1 404	19	27	2 202	119	17	731	2	44	2 933	121	6	429	—	50	3 362	121
2nd	13	1 397	56	13	938	43	26	2 335	99	5	184	17	31	2 519	116	8	480	—	39	2 999	116
3rd	12	1 248	164	12	1 342	140	24	2 590	304	5	268	14	29	2 858	318	2	162	—	31	3 020	318

Notes to table

Application of controls. Control was applied to the Metropolitan Region (Greater London and part of the South East Region) from 5 August 1965, but with retrospective application to 5 November 1964 for some projects and to the west Midland conurbation from 14 August 1965. In July 1966 control was extended to the remainder of the south east and west Midland regions and to the whole of the east Midland and East Anglia regions. In February 1969 East Anglia and rural parts of the Midlands were excluded and since December 1970 control has applied only to the south east region.

Modifications to controls. On 14 June 1977 the exemption limit for permits throughout the south east region was raised from 15 000 to 30 000 sq ft. Office development permits are not required for offices ancillary to industrial development covered by an appropriate industrial development certificate.

Definition of areas

see *Trade and Industry*, 2 September 1977, page 432.

Area relinquished. Comprises office floor space relinquished for demolition or change of use to non-office uses.

Motor vehicle output in October

Production of cars in the four weeks ended 29 October of 104 433 units (26 108 per week) was 8 per cent below the rate in October 1976. In the 10 months to October 1977, car production was 1 per cent above that of a year earlier; production for export rose by 5 per cent while that for the home market fell by 3 per cent.

Production of commercial vehicles in October of 32 869 units (8217 per week) was 5 per cent higher than in October last year. In the first 10 months of 1977, commercial vehicle output rose by 7 per cent compared with the same period last year. Output for export rose by 2 per cent and that for the home market rose by 13 per cent.

The summaries which follow are based on the seasonally adjusted figures in table 2.

Cars

October passenger car production of 101 000 units was 9 per cent below the monthly average for 1976. Output in the three months August to October fell by 4 per cent compared with the preceding three months; within the total, production for the home market fell by 4 per cent and that for export fell by 5 per cent.

Commercial vehicles

Commercial vehicle production of 31 600 units was 2 per cent above the monthly average for 1976. In the period August to October, output rose by 1 per cent compared with the preceding three months. Output for export fell by 3 per cent while for home market rose by 5 per cent.

Table 1 Car and commercial vehicle production

Production figures of road motor vehicles cover complete vehicles, chassis with engines for delivery as such and unassembled vehicles for export. Road tractors are included but battery-operated road vehicles are excluded.

	No of weeks	Passenger cars (including taxis)				Commercial road vehicles			
		For home market	For export	Totals	Weekly average	For home market	For export	Totals	Weekly average
1968	52	1 013 163	802 773	1 815 936	34 922	259 331	149 855	409 186	7 869
1969	53	892 758	824 315	1 717 073	32 398	272 998	192 778	465 776	8 788
1970	52	918 109	722 857	1 640 966	31 557	267 407	190 125	457 532	8 799
1971	52	1 027 462	714 478	1 741 940	33 499	268 278	187 928	456 206	8 773
1972	52	1 307 881	613 430	1 921 311	36 948	272 649	135 470	408 119	7 848
1973	52	1 142 216	605 105	1 747 321	33 602	257 574	159 049	416 623	8 012
1974	52	937 932	596 187	1 534 119	29 502	232 373	170 193	402 566	7 742
1975	52	735 532	532 164	1 267 696	24 379	194 319	186 386	380 705	7 321
1976	53	768 481	564 968	1 333 449	25 159	182 554	189 503	372 057	7 020
1977	52								
1976									
1st qtr	13	209 955	148 844	358 799	27 600	44 978	48 785	93 763	7 213
2nd	13	205 839	143 677	349 516	26 886	46 510	51 249	97 759	7 520
3rd	13	145 427	108 233	253 660	19 512	36 730	39 225	75 955	5 843
4th	14	207 260	164 214	371 474	26 534	54 336	50 244	104 580	7 470
1977									
1st qtr	13	181 025	152 106	333 131	25 625	51 614	55 128	106 742	8 211
2nd	13	209 934	163 894	373 828	28 756	49 030	49 437	98 467	7 574
3rd	13	166 285	106 275	272 560	20 966	43 867	40 111	83 978	6 460
4th	13								
1976									
Jan	4	56 966	39 432	96 398	24 100	12 051	13 971	26 022	6 506
Feb	4	68 878	50 913	119 791	29 948	14 468	15 829	30 297	7 574
Mar	5	84 111	58 499	142 610	28 522	18 459	18 985	37 444	7 489
Apr	4	54 445	38 281	92 726	23 182	13 209	14 019	27 228	6 807
May	4	76 074	51 169	127 243	31 811	16 122	18 245	34 367	8 592
Jun	5	75 320	54 227	129 547	25 909	17 179	18 985	36 164	7 233
Jul	4	56 334	34 350	90 684	22 671	12 389	13 444	25 833	6 458
Aug	4	32 971	31 801	64 772	16 193	8 871	9 219	18 090	4 523
Sep	5	56 122	42 082	98 204	19 641	15 470	16 562	32 032	6 406
Oct	5	82 077	59 240	141 317	28 263	19 947	19 320	39 267	7 853
Nov	4	67 512	52 863	120 375	30 094	17 922	15 706	33 628	8 407
Dec	5	57 671	52 111	109 782	21 956	16 467	15 218	31 685	6 337
1977									
Jan	4	66 199	54 935	121 134	30 284	16 852	16 536	33 388	8 347
Feb	4	49 647	46 882	96 529	24 132	15 302	17 049	32 351	8 088
Mar	5	65 179	50 289	115 468	23 094	19 460	21 543	41 003	8 201
Apr	4	64 592	50 157	114 749	28 687	13 277	14 974	28 251	7 063
May	4	80 218	61 224	141 442	35 361	18 741	18 853	37 594	9 399
Jun	5	65 124	52 513	117 637	23 527	17 012	15 610	32 622	6 524
Jul	4	47 199	28 553	75 752	18 938	12 964	13 406	26 370	6 593
Aug	4	51 661	28 234	79 895	19 974	12 532	10 240	22 772	5 693
Sep	5	67 425	49 488	116 913	23 383	18 371	16 465	34 836	6 967
Oct	4	55 439	48 994	104 433	26 108	19 190	13 679	32 869	8 217
Nov	4								
Dec	5								

Note: The number of vehicles produced for export shown in these tables differs from the number exported (which is shown in the overseas trade statistics) because of differences in timing and coverage.

Note

To maintain comparability with earlier periods, the figures of car production shown in tables 1 and 2 include production in the form of components for assembly at Leyland's plant in Seneffe.

Inquiries: 01-212 0788

Table 2 Production seasonally adjusted

Monthly average — Thousands

	Passenger cars			Commercial vehicles		
	For home market	For export	Total	For home market	For export	Total
1968	84	67	151	21.6	12.5	34.1
1969	74	69	143	22.7	16.1	38.8
1970	77	60	137	22.3	15.8	38.1
1971	86	59	145	22.3	15.7	38.0
1972	109	51	160	22.7	11.3	34.0
1973	95	50	145	21.5	13.2	34.7
1974	78	50	128	19.3	14.2	33.5
1975	61	45	106	16.2	15.5	31.7
1976	64	47	111	15.2	15.8	31.0
1976						
1st qtr	67	49	116	14.7	16.9	31.6
2nd	68	46	114	15.2	16.2	31.4
3rd	62	44	106	15.0	15.4	30.4
4th	59	48	107	15.9	14.7	30.6
1977						
1st qtr r	57	50	107	16.7	18.8	35.5
2nd r	70	53	123	15.9	15.6	31.5
3rd	69	42	111	17.6	15.6	33.2
4th						
1976						
Jan	58	44	102	13.1	16.8	29.9
Feb	74	53	127	15.4	17.1	32.5
Mar	70	50	120	15.6	16.9	32.5
Apr	65	46	111	14.5	15.9	30.4
May	72	48	120	16.1	16.8	32.9
Jun	66	46	112	15.1	15.8	30.9
Jul	82	49	131	17.1	16.0	33.1
Aug	43	39	82	12.9	14.4	27.3
Sep	62	44	106	15.0	15.7	30.7
Oct	64	47	111	15.5	15.4	30.9
Nov	61	51	112	17.6	16.0	33.6
Dec	51	48	99	14.6	12.8	27.4
1977						
Jan r	66	60	126	17.9	19.6	37.5
Feb r	53	47	100	16.0	18.0	34.0
Mar r	53	42	95	16.1	18.8	34.9
Apr r	76	59	135	14.3	16.7	31.0
May r	75	56	131	18.3	17.1	35.4
Jun r	59	44	103	15.1	13.1	28.2
Jul r	68	40	108	17.5	15.7	33.2
Aug r	67	34	101	17.8	15.7	33.5
Sep	73	51	124	17.5	15.3	32.8
Oct	54	47	101	18.2	13.4	31.6
Nov						
Dec						
Average of						
May-Jul 1977	67	47	114	16.9	15.3	32.2
Aug-Oct 1977	65	44	109	17.8	14.8	32.6
Percentage change	−4	−5	−4	+5	−3	+1

r Revised.

Notes to table 2: The seasonally adjusted series has been adjusted to exclude the effect of regularly recurring influences (eg holidays) but the figures still reflect the effect of factors that do not recur regularly (eg strikes).

Care should be taken not to interpret changes between one month and another as necessarily indicating the underlying trend. The averages in the latest three months and the previous three months give a more reliable guide to recent changes.

Capital expenditure of the manufacturing, distributive and service industries: third quarter 1977

Provisional estimates indicate that the volume of investment in these industries has increased by about 4 per cent between the second and third quarters of 1977. The increases for both manufacturing industry and the distributive and service industries (other than shipping) are greater than in recent quarters.

Manufacturing industry

Capital expenditure by manufacturing industry in the third quarter of 1977 is provisionally estimated at £454 million at 1970 prices, seasonally adjusted, 5 per cent higher than the latest estimate for the second quarter. Practically the whole of the increase came from investment in plant and machinery.

In the first three quarters of 1977 the total volume of investment was almost 6 per cent higher than in the same period of 1976, with increases of 7 per cent in plant and machinery and 27 per cent in vehicles but a reduction of 10 per cent in new building work.

These figures are consistent with the results of the Department's latest investment intentions inquiry published at the beginning of October which indicated a rise of 7 per cent for investment in the year 1977 to a total of £1,770 million at 1970 prices. A further rise of only 2 or 3 per cent between the third and fourth quarters would be necessary to reach this total.

Distributive and service industries (excluding shipping)

The provisional estimate of the capital expenditure of the distributive and service industries in the third quarter of 1977 is about £524 million, at 1970 prices, seasonally adjusted. This is about 3 per cent higher than in the previous quarter. In the first three quarters of 1977, investment rose by 5 per cent, compared with that in the corresponding period of 1976. As for manufacturing, this rise is consistent with the latest estimate for 1977 (£2,070 million at 1970 prices, an increase of 5 per cent on 1976) which emerged from the investment intentions survey. Expenditure on new building work declined by about 15 per cent, but investment in vehicles increased by some 12 per cent, and in plant and machinery, by 16 per cent.

Shipping industry

Provisional figures for the shipping industry indicate that capital expenditure in the third quarter of 1977 was about £59 million, at 1970 prices, seasonally adjusted. In the first three quarters of 1977, investment rose by 12 per cent, compared with that in the corresponding period of the previous year.

Table 1 Fixed capital expenditure at 1970 prices seasonally adjusted of manufacturing, distributive and service industries

£ million

Period	Total	Analysis by industrial sectors: Manufacturing industries	Distributive and service industries (excluding shipping)	Shipping industry	Analysis by type of asset: New building work	Vehicles	Plant and machinery
1966	3 228	1 774	1 334	120	938	556	1 733
1967	3 314	1 738	1 407	170	939	603	1 772
1968	3 703 (3,615)[1]	1 851 (1 800)[1]	1 561 (1 554)[1]	290 (260)[1]	963	759 (729)[1]	1 980 (1 922)[1]
1969	3 893 (3 981)[1]	1 978 (2 029)[1]	1 683 (1 690)[1]	233 (263)[1]	1 044	728 (758)[1]	2 120 (2 178)[1]
1970	4 294	2 130	1 799	364	1 063	859	2 372
1971	4 284	1 991	1 930	364	1 114	832	2 338
1972	4 292	1 739	2 071	482	1 044	1 018	2 230
1973	4 665	1 753	2 414	498	1 092	1 124	2 449
1974	4 858	2 028	2 414	415	1 211	1 058	2 589
1975	4 120	1 745	2 034	341	1 007	841	2 272
1976	3 836	1 659	1 974	203	870	782	2 184
1971							
1st qtr	1 051	513	467	71	275	186	590
2nd	1 081	499	479	104	276	225	581
3rd	1 093	498	495	100	281	217	595
4th	1 059	481	490	89	282	205	572
1972							
1st qtr	1 053	457	487	109	260	230	563
2nd	1 077	429	520	128	261	259	557
3rd	1 056	426	522	109	257	249	551
4th	1 106	427	541	137	267	280	559
1973							
1st qtr	1 188	438	593	157	274	310	604
2nd	1 119	422	597	100	271	251	597
3rd	1 145	456	596	93	280	254	611
4th	1 213	437	629	147	267	310	636
1974							
1st qtr	1 223	509	639	75	311	242	670
2nd	1 204	504	603	97	299	258	646
3rd	1 213	504	587	122	304	280	629
4th	1 218	511	585	122	297	277	644
1975							
1st qtr	1 090	472	516	103	274	235	581
2nd	1 054	446	513	95	261	215	577
3rd	1 014	420	512	82	242	203	569
4th	961	407	494	61	230	187	544
1976							
1st qtr	940	405	471	64	221	194	525
2nd	923	407	489	27	218	173	532
3rd	1 001	421	506	74	221	227	554
4th	972	426	508	37	210	188	574
1977							
1st qtr	996	419	507	69	192	226	578
2nd	997	432	509	57	189	224	585
3rd	1 037	454	524	59	193	230	613

The figures given above cover a wide sector of the economy, accounting – after exclusion of dwellings – for some 48 per cent of all UK gross domestic fixed capital formation in 1976. The scope of manufacturing and the distributive and service industries is defined in the notes at the end of the article, and falls very largely in the private sector of the economy, although some public sector elements are included as appropriate (notably the British Steel Corporation, in manufacturing industry). Exploration and development work in the North Sea (order II) is excluded.

[1] After allowing for expenditure, brought forward into 1968 from 1969 to secure the higher rate of investment grants which ended on 31 December 1968: estimated at £51 million for manufacturing industry, £7 million for distributive and service industries, and £30 million for shipping. The estimate for shipping is particularly uncertain because of the erratic nature of this industry's capital expenditure, while that for the distributive and service industries is uncertain because of the smallness of the effect.

Note

The estimation of changes in the volume of capital expenditure (as distinct from changes at current prices) is subject to greater error when price rises are larger, and this should be borne in mind in using the figures.

Inquiries: 01-215 3175/3176/3345.

Notes to tables

Capital expenditure comprises expenditure on vehicles (including ships) and plant and machinery less receipts from sales of these assets, and on new building work.

The analysis by industry group follows the Standard Industrial Classification revised 1968 edition:

Manufacturing orders III to XIX
Distributive trades order XXIII
Wholesale MLH 810, 811, 812, 831, 832 (except leasing by finance houses and similar businesses)
Retail MLH 820, 821

Other industries order XX (construction): XXII (transport and communication) excluding 701 – railways, 706 – port and inland water transport, 707 – air transport and 708 – postal services and telecommunications: XXIV (insurance, banking, finance and business services) including leasing by finance houses and similar businesses and excluding Trustee Savings Banks; XXV (professional and scientific services) excluding 872 – educational services and 874 – medical and dental services; and XXVI (miscellaneous services).

SIC orders I (agriculture, forestry and fishing), II (mining and quarrying), XXI (gas, electricity and water), and XXVI (public administration and defence) are completely excluded.

The estimates with the exception of those for manufacturing industry in table 2, are shown to the nearest £m but should not be regarded as accurate to this degree and care should be taken in using the industry figures in tables 2 and 3, because of the margins of error involved in the quarterly seasonal adjustments. Also, there may be an apparent discrepancy between the total and the sum of the constituent parts due to rounding.

See also footnotes to table 1.

Trade and Industry guides

Four guides, regularly updated, are published in *Trade and Industry*

- ☐ Guide to the Departments of Industry, Trade and Prices and Consumer Protection
- ☐ Trade promotions guide
- ☐ Commercial representation guide
- ☐ European public holiday guide
- ☐ Guide to government statistics

For date of publication of the latest editions, see 'organisational information' in the index at the end of the Statistics section.

Table 2 Fixed capital expenditure of manufacturing industry at 1970 prices seasonally adjusted

£ million

Period	Total all manufacturing industries	Analysis by industry group: Food, drink and tobacco	Coal and petroleum products	Chemicals	Metal manufacture	Engineering, shipbuilding and metal goods	Vehicles	Textiles leather and clothing	Paper printing and publishing	Other manufacturing industries	Analysis by type of asset: New building work	Vehicles	Plant and machinery
1968	1 851.2 (1 800.2)[1]	247.1	127.7	256.0	145.8	392.2	172.2	176.7	112.2	221.3	335.9	109.2	1 406.1 (1 355.1)[1]
1969	1 977.5 (2 028.5)[1]	238.8	102.9	296.4	167.9	394.0	208.7	189.4	121.3	258.1	390.1	115.9	1 471.5 (1 522.5)[1]
1970	2 129.8	246.4	82.8	382.3	256.4	422.3	233.4	170.9	134.2	201.1	391.2	114.7	1 623.9
1971	1 990.7	248.6	118.5	333.9	296.3	373.3	149.2	144.4	110.8	215.7	357.1	113.4	1 520.2
1972	1 739.2	258.7	100.8	240.0	255.3	343.8	98.8	120.0	101.8	220.0	305.5	123.3	1 310.4
1973	1 752.9	268.3	39.6	182.9	200.5	396.4	139.7	170.8	114.1	240.6	289.3	130.6	1 333.0
1974	2 028.4	298.4	44.8	222.4	248.8	479.1	158.2	189.4	133.5	253.8	359.0	140.2	1 529.2
1975	1 744.8	229.9	52.8	270.5	274.1	382.1	125.9	130.6	105.5	173.4	302.7	105.4	1 336.7
1976	1 659.2	219.4	52.3	266.1	285.0	347.6	132.0	96.8	86.5	173.5	240.2	121.3	1 297.7
1971 1st qtr	513.4	62.5	26.0	88.7	72.5	103.2	40.4	40.8	28.1	51.2	90.5	28.0	394.9
2nd	498.7	60.8	26.6	78.7	71.2	96.5	40.7	39.6	29.3	55.3	89.8	29.0	379.9
3rd	498.0	63.0	31.6	84.8	77.3	90.0	36.4	32.2	27.2	55.5	87.4	27.2	383.4
4th	480.6	62.3	34.3	81.7	75.3	83.6	31.7	31.8	26.2	53.7	89.4	29.2	362.0
1972 1st qtr	457.3	59.4	30.8	69.2	83.6	82.2	26.2	26.1	22.2	57.6	79.1	28.1	350.1
2nd	428.8	62.2	26.9	62.7	62.4	81.1	23.4	30.3	25.6	54.2	77.3	29.5	322.0
3rd	425.9	68.5	22.4	57.3	53.8	88.8	23.3	30.3	26.7	54.8	77.2	32.1	316.6
4th	427.2	68.6	20.7	50.8	55.5	91.7	25.9	33.3	27.3	53.4	71.9	33.6	321.7
1973 1st qtr	437.6	70.9	17.9	47.6	54.8	92.2	31.9	38.3	29.0	55.0	67.2	33.1	337.3
2nd	421.8	60.7	17.9	46.8	38.0	98.4	33.2	39.3	28.3	59.2	69.2	31.3	321.3
3rd	456.3	65.1	14.0	44.3	56.0	102.3	36.9	46.3	28.3	63.1	76.0	33.2	347.1
4th	437.2	71.6	−10.2	44.2	51.7	103.5	37.7	46.9	28.5	63.3	76.9	33.0	327.3
1974 1st qtr	509.0	78.3	9.7	50.0	54.2	124.1	40.8	49.1	31.5	71.3	89.4	35.0	384.6
2nd	504.0	77.1	10.0	51.3	60.2	117.7	39.9	48.8	34.4	64.6	89.1	35.6	379.3
3rd	504.0	75.3	11.5	55.5	58.2	120.3	39.9	48.0	33.5	61.8	88.4	35.9	379.7
4th	511.4	67.7	13.6	65.6	76.2	117.0	37.6	43.5	34.1	56.1	92.1	33.7	385.6
1975 1st qtr	471.8	63.7	12.8	68.9	66.9	107.1	35.5	37.6	29.6	49.7	85.0	28.8	358.0
2nd	446.2	59.4	14.3	69.8	65.4	100.1	32.2	33.8	26.1	45.1	79.5	25.3	341.4
3rd	419.9	52.1	15.0	68.9	69.1	90.9	28.5	29.9	26.5	39.0	72.7	25.1	322.1
4th	406.9	54.7	10.7	62.9	72.7	84.0	29.7	29.3	23.3	39.6	65.5	26.2	315.2
1976 1st qtr	404.5	51.1	15.7	59.7	76.3	85.5	28.4	26.7	22.6	38.5	62.3	27.3	314.9
2nd	407.3	50.1	12.7	65.0	75.9	84.1	32.0	24.8	22.3	40.4	59.5	31.4	316.4
3rd	421.2	60.0	11.0	70.5	70.3	85.8	33.6	23.2	21.1	45.7	60.0	31.3	329.9
4th	426.2	58.2	12.9	70.9	62.5	92.2	38.0	22.1	20.5	48.9	58.4	31.3	336.5
1977 1st qtr	419.1	62.8	10.7	65.9	60.5	90.6	34.3	22.1	21.8	50.4	53.5	35.4	330.2
2nd	431.9	74.3	11.6	70.9	54.1	93.0	31.4	22.5	22.3	51.8	55.4	40.5	336.0
3rd	453.8										55.6	38.5	359.7

[1] See footnote to table 1.

Table 3 Fixed capital expenditure in the distributive and service industries (excluding shipping) at 1970 prices seasonally adjusted

£ million

Period	Total	Analysis by industry group: Wholesale distribution	Retail distribution	Other industries	Analysis by type of asset: New building work	Vehicles	Plant and machinery
1968	1 561 (1 554)[1]	166	283	1 112 (1,105)[1]	624	368	570 (563)[1]
1969	1 683 (1 690)[1]	160	295	1 228 (1 235)[1]	650	389	643 (650)[1]
1970	1 799	176	299	1 325	666	394	739
1971	1 930	185	334	1 411	754	367	809
1972	2 071	198	400	1 473	736	436	899
1973	2 414	197	460	1 758	801	505	1 108
1974	2 414	197	452	1 765	849	509	1 057
1975	2 034	148	387	1 500	701	402	932
1976	1 974	145	386	1 443	627	467	880
1971 1st qtr	467	44	82	341	184	89	194
2nd	479	46	86	346	185	96	198
3rd	495	47	85	363	193	92	209
4th	490	48	81	360	192	90	208
1972 1st qtr	487	48	91	348	179	101	207
2nd	520	50	96	374	183	108	229
3rd	522	46	104	372	179	112	231
4th	541	54	109	378	195	115	232
1973 1st qtr	593	51	110	432	206	123	264
2nd	597	49	117	431	202	120	275
3rd	596	48	120	428	204	131	261
4th	629	50	113	466	189	132	308
1974 1st qtr	639	52	113	474	221	134	285
2nd	603	48	109	446	210	128	266
3rd	587	51	108	428	214	124	249
4th	585	45	123	417	204	123	258
1975 1st qtr	516	41	91	384	188	106	222
2nd	513	39	97	377	181	97	235
3rd	512	35	99	379	168	97	246
4th	494	33	100	360	164	102	228
1976 1st qtr	471	34	98	339	158	104	208
2nd	489	36	104	349	158	117	214
3rd	506	38	94	374	160	124	222
4th	508	37	90	381	151	122	236
1977 1st qtr	507	32	108	367	138	123	247
2nd	509	37	103	369	132	129	248
3rd	524				137	134	254

[1] See footnote to table 1.

Table 4 Fixed capital expenditure at current prices of manufacturing, distributive and service industries

£ million

Period	Total	Manufacturing industry	Distributive and service industries (excluding shipping)	Shipping industry
1966	2 787	1 517	1 172	99
1967	2 861	1 485	1 236	140
1968	3 304	1 639	1 418	247
1969	3 629	1 822	1 589	217
1970	4 294	2 130	1 799	364
1971	4 648	2 187	2 078	384
1972	4 971	2 044	2 373	553
1973	6 008	2 286	3 088	635
1974	7 400	3 150	3 639	611
1975	7 821	3 461	3 795	565
1976	8 642	3 957	4 292	393
1973				
1st qtr	1 437	542	729	166
2nd	1 366	508	739	118
3rd	1 449	596	744	109
4th	1 757	640	875	242
1974				
1st qtr	1 677	712	875	90
2nd	1 695	707	863	125
3rd	1 859	797	890	173
4th	2 169	935	1 011	223
1975				
1st qtr	1 865	846	878	142
2nd	1 867	818	910	138
3rd	1 965	855	962	148
4th	2 125	941	1 045	138
1976				
1st qtr	1 977	915	952	110
2nd	1 943	889	1 010	45
3rd	2 237	998	1 091	148
4th	2 485	1 155	1 239	92
1977				
1st qtr	2 426	1 105	1 192	129
2nd	2 453	1 112	1 235	107
3rd	2 737	1 247	1 346	144

Manufacturers' stocks in September

It is estimated that manufacturers' stocks fell by about £10 million at 1970 prices, seasonally adjusted, in September. Indications are that falls in materials and fuel and work in progress were partially offset by a rise in stocks of finished goods.

Monthly figures from January 1977, adjusted to agree with the quarterly figures published opposite, are shown below:

		Stock changes £ million, 1970 prices seasonally adjusted
1977	January	−10
	February	+60
	March	+70
	April	+20
	May	+80
	June	+70
	July	−20
	August	−50
	September	−10

Inquiries: 01-215 3176/5215.

Manufacturers' and distributors' stocks: third quarter 1977

It is provisionally estimated that the level of stocks held by manufacturers, wholesalers and retailers fell by about £110 million at 1970 prices, seasonally adjusted, in the third quarter of 1977, following the rise of almost £200 million in the second quarter.

Manufacturing industry

Provisional estimates indicate that manufacturers' stocks fell by nearly £80 million at 1970 prices, seasonally adjusted, following a rise of about £160 million in the second quarter. This fall was mainly due to a reduction of some £70 million in work in progress, a small fall in stocks of materials and fuel being partially offset by a small rise in stocks of finished goods.

Since total manufacturing output was unchanged in the third quarter the stock/output ratio fell from the latest estimate for end June of 108.1 to 107.3 at end September, but is still at a high level by historical standards.

Distributive industries

Provisional results indicate that wholesalers' stocks increased in the third quarter by about £10 million, at 1970 prices, seasonally adjusted. Retailers' stocks declined by about £40 million.

Note

The estimation of physical changes in stocks is subject to greater error when the rate of price increase is varying, and this should be borne in mind when using the figures.

Inquiries: Manufacturing 01-215 3176/5215, distributive 01-215 3345.

Table 1 Value of physical increase in industry's stocks at 1970 prices seasonally adjusted

£ million

	Total	Manufacturing	Wholesaling	Retailing
Level of stocks at end 1976	14,287	10 528	1 830	1,929
1970	377	325	68	−16
1971	−78	−148	52	18
1972	−82	−145	48	15
1973	1 078	597	102	379
1974	606	634	81	−109
1975	−605	−429	−111	−65
1976	37	5	23	9
1970				
1st qtr	33	47	4	−17
2nd	144	117	21	6
3rd	93	75	17	1
4th	107	87	27	−6
1971				
1st qtr	13	13	14	−14
2nd	−53	−89	28	9
3rd	−17	−40	13	11
4th	−21	−31	−2	12
1972				
1st qtr	−53	−83	21	8
2nd	−21	−60	−2	41
3rd	−22	−21	14	−15
4th	15	19	15	−19
1973				
1st qtr	330	199	39	92
2nd	381	166	7	209
3rd	181	111	30	40
4th	185	121	26	38
1974				
1st qtr	−69	−71	21	−20
2nd	284	211	48	25
3rd	345	377	5	−37
4th	46	117	6	−77
1975				
1st qtr	−98	−31	−23	−44
2nd	−186	−74	−51	−61
3rd	−218	−209	−26	16
4th	−103	−115	−12	24
1976				
1st qtr	59	—	26	33
2nd	−131	−66	−20	−45
3rd	28	−2	14	16
4th	81	73	3	5
1977				
1st qtr	278	125	51	102
2nd	199	164	39	−5
3rd	−111	−78	11	−44

Table 2 Value of the physical increase of stocks held by manufacturing industry at 1970 prices seasonally adjusted

£ million

	Analysis by industry group							Analysis by type of asset		
	All manufacturing industries	Food, drink and tobacco	Chemicals, coal and petroleum products	Metal manufacture	Engineering, shipbuilding, vehicles and metal goods	Textiles, leather and clothing	Other manufacturing industries	Materials and fuel	Work in progress	Finished goods
Level of stocks at end 1976	10 528	1 327	1 146	917	5 216	846	1 076	3 543	4 083	2 903
1970	325	11	43	50	222	1	−1	113	122	90
1971	−148	11	17	5	−164	−14	−3	−146	−98	96
1972	−145	20	3	−44	−85	−53	15	−41	32	−136
1973	597	75	95	−8	358	12	65	303	324	−30
1974	634	75	155	26	261	41	76	287	86	262
1975	−429	−99	−44	39	−149	−39	−137	−391	−118	80
1976	5	−1	54	83	−103	−25	−4	−61	10	56
1970										
1st qtr	47	6	19	−11	15	9	8	13	—	33
2nd	117	7	4	19	90	2	−5	56	59	2
3rd	75	4	11	15	48	—	−4	34	17	24
4th	87	−6	8	26	69	−11	—	10	47	30
1971										
1st qtr	13	8	−5	29	−30	8	3	−22	−25	60
2nd	−89	−5	16	−24	−42	−31	−3	−44	−62	17
3rd	−40	−11	−2	−7	−23	6	−3	−44	−4	8
4th	−31	20	9	7	−69	4	−1	−36	−7	12
1972										
1st qtr	−83	7	15	−57	−19	−14	−15	−15	7	−75
2nd	−60	16	−21	9	−65	−11	12	−50	21	−31
3rd	−21	−7	7	−1	−9	−16	5	2	−2	−22
4th	19	3	3	5	7	−11	12	22	6	−8
1973										
1st qtr	199	5	22	20	113	−8	47	89	110	—
2nd	166	25	35	2	92	8	3	94	75	−3
3rd	111	27	21	−9	60	4	10	44	82	−14
4th	121	18	17	−22	93	9	6	77	57	−13
1974										
1st qtr	−71	24	37	−57	−38	−7	−29	64	−24	−110
2nd	211	30	36	7	55	30	53	68	22	121
3rd	377	43	72	43	145	24	49	135	73	169
4th	117	−22	10	33	99	−6	2	20	15	82
1975										
1st qtr	−31	−10	−9	47	−18	−5	−37	−136	18	88
2nd	−74	−50	−23	23	26	−17	−33	−51	−22	−1
3rd	−209	−28	−25	−22	−76	−16	−42	−141	−61	−7
4th	−115	−11	14	−9	−81	−3	−25	−63	−52	—
1976										
1st qtr	—	−18	16	−11	10	12	−9	−26	12	13
2nd	−66	−6	15	12	−61	−19	−7	−28	−34	−4
3rd	−2	−1	15	44	−58	−10	7	7	−17	7
4th	73	24	7	38	7	−9	6	−15	48	40
1977										
1st qtr	125	−11	18	13	70	9	26	55	44	26
2nd	164	20	8	12	82	22	22	39	−5	130
3rd	−78							−16	−73	11

Table 3 Value of the physical increase of stocks held by wholesalers at 1970 prices seasonally adjusted

£ million

	Total wholesalers	General wholesale distributors	Dealers in coal, builders materials etc.	Dealers in industrial materials and machinery
Level of stocks at end 1976	1 830	1 037	158	635
1970	68	15	—	53
1971	52	41	−3	14
1972	48	41	11	−3
1973	102	127	−1	−24
1974	81	6	—	75
1975	−111	−142	−13	44
1976	23	−3	11	16
1970				
1st qtr	4	−4	—	8
2nd	21	12	−3	12
3rd	17	−5	−1	24
4th	27	12	4	10
1971				
1st qtr	14	1	−1	14
2nd	28	22	—	6
3rd	13	11	1	2
4th	−2	7	−2	−7
1972				
1st qtr	21	3	−2	20
2nd	−2	2	2	−6
3rd	14	23	3	−11
4th	15	13	9	−6
1973				
1st qtr	39	40	−6	5
2nd	7	14	4	−12
3rd	30	40	2	−13
4th	26	32	−1	−4
1974				
1st qtr	21	23	−1	−1
2nd	48	22	2	24
3rd	5	−21	−3	29
4th	6	−18	2	22
1975				
1st qtr	−23	−44	2	19
2nd	−51	−53	−8	10
3rd	−26	−25	−5	4
4th	−12	−20	−2	10
1976				
1st qtr	26	14	13	−1
2nd	−20	3	−6	−17
3rd	14	−11	6	19
4th	3	−10	−2	14
1977				
1st qtr	51	24	6	21
2nd	39	24	6	10
3rd	11			

Table 4 Increase in the book value of manufacturers' and distributors' stocks

£ million

	Total	Manufacturing	Wholesaling	Retailing
Level of stocks at end 1976	33 554	26 342	4 502	3 799
1970	1 302	1 038	162	102
1971	764	471	160	133
1972	949	618	217	114
1973	3 646	2 571	593	481
1974	6 330	5 132	779	419
1975	3 227	2 568	212	447
1976	6 126	4 787	873	466
1970				
1st qtr	323	288	16	18
2nd	351	293	26	33
3rd	267	174	78	15
4th	362	284	43	36
1971				
1st qtr	259	211	29	20
2nd	294	180	60	54
3rd	112	28	70	13
4th	99	53	—	46
1972				
1st qtr	90	60	5	26
2nd	197	113	25	59
3rd	251	148	106	−3
4th	412	298	82	32
1973				
1st qtr	659	487	71	101
2nd	739	554	88	96
3rd	1 018	664	239	115
4th	1 230	867	194	169
1974	1 763	1 501	204	59
2nd	1 853	1 447	224	182
3rd	1 525	1 254	199	72
4th	1 188	930	152	106
1975				
1st qtr	978	933	16	61
2nd	627	608	20	38
3rd	541	262	124	154
4th	1 081	764	123	194
1976				
1st qtr	1 058	879	124	55
2nd	1 263	1 125	147	−9
3rd	1 662	1 155	340	168
4th	2 142	1 628	262	252
1977				
1st qtr	1 875	1 377	203	296
2nd	1 339	980	234	125
3rd	517	267	183	66

Table 5 Relationship of manufacturers' stocks to manufacturing production

Index numbers – 4th qtr 1969 = 100
Seasonally adjusted

	Stock levels at 1970 prices	Production (with 1970 net output weight)	Ratio of stocks to production
1967			
1st qtr	94	89	105.4
2nd	94	90	104.6
3rd	94	90	104.5
4th	94	92	102.6
1968			
1st qtr	93	94	98.8
2nd	94	96	98.4
3rd	96	96	99.5
4th	97	97	99.8
1969			
1st qtr	98	98	100.0
2nd	99	100	98.7
3rd	99	100	99.5
4th	100	100	100.0
1970			
1st qtr	101	100	100.9
2nd	102	100	101.7
3rd	103	100	102.2
4th	103	101	102.3
1971			
1st qtr	104	99	104.1
2nd	103	100	102.3
3rd	102	100	102.6
4th	102	99	102.7
1972			
1st qtr	101	97	103.8
2nd	100	102	98.5
3rd	100	103	97.2
4th	100	107	93.8
1973			
1st qtr	102	110	93.1
2nd	104	110	94.5
3rd	105	112	94.2
4th	107	111	95.7
1974			
1st qtr	106	107	98.9
2nd	108	111	97.1
3rd	112	111	100.6
4th	113	107	105.4
1975			
1st qtr	113	107	105.5
2nd	112	102	110.2
3rd	110	101	109.1
4th	109	101	107.1
1976			
1st qtr	109	102	106.6
2nd	108	104	104.0
3rd	108	104	103.7
4th	109	105	103.4
1977			
1st qtr	110	106	103.8
2nd	112	103	108.1
3rd	111	103	107.3

Notes to tables 1 to 4

1 The analysis by industry group follows the standard industrial classification (1968 edition):
Manufacturing orders III to XIX.
Distributive trades order XXII:
Wholesale MLH 810, 811, 812, 831, 832 (except leasing by finance houses)
Retail MLH 820, 821.

2 Book values exclude VAT. Purchase tax payable on retailer's stock prior to the second quarter of 1973.
3 The estimates are shown to the nearest £ million but should not be regarded as accurate to this degree and care should be taken in using the industry figures in tables 2 and 3 because of the margin of error involved in quarterly seasonal adjustments. Differences between totals and the sum of constituent parts are due to rounding.

1 The Index numbers of the level of stocks relate to the end of each quarter: the index of production refers to production during the quarter.
2 The 1970 index of production has been rebased on the fourth quarter of 1969 for the purpose of this table.
3 The index numbers of the stocks production ratio are calculated from unrounded estimates of the data in the previous two columns.

Unemployment figures for mid-November

Unemployed persons in Great Britain on 10 November numbered 1 437 963, representing 6.2 per cent of the total number of employees. The total includes 68 579 school leavers under 18 not yet employed.

The seasonally adjusted series shows that the number of unemployed in Great Britain excluding the school leavers was 1 376 500 (6.0 per cent of all employees), a decrease of 600 since 13 October. In the last three months there has been an increase on average of 7 000 a month.

Unemployment on 10 November 1977

	Great Britain		United Kingdom	
	Number	Change since October	Number	Change since October
Unemployed, excluding school leavers	1 369 384	+5 403	1 425 643	+5 934
School leavers	68 579	−24 023	73 451	−25 176
Total unemployed	1 437 963	−18 620	1 499 094	−19 242
Percentage of all employees	*6.2*	*−0.1*	*6.4*	*−0.1*
Seasonally adjusted				
Unemployed, excluding school leavers	1 376 500	−600	1 432 900	−500
Percentage of all employees	*6.0*	—	*6.1*	—

The average inflow of vacancies in the three months ending October was 199 000 per month compared with 192 000 in the three months ending July and 196 000 in the three months ending May 1977. The average outflows in the three periods were 198 000, 196 000 and 197 000 per month respectively.

Inquiries: Watford 28500 ext 403.

Index to statistics

An index to statistics published regularly in *Trade and Industry* appears each week at the end of the Statistics section.

ineering sales and orders: improvements in the volume indices

evised indices have been introduced for sales, orders-on-hand and new orders (net of cancellations) for the three sectors of engineering, mechanical, instrument and electrical (orders VII, VIII and IX of the standard industrial classification). As mentioned in a special note in previous commentaries, studies relating to the method of revaluing sales and orders data to a constant price basis have recently taken place. The purpose of the analysis was to estimate and eliminate biasses that had become more serious when prices began to change more rapidly than in the past. Following the completion of this work and the implementation of other improvements to the quality and accuracy of the data and its processing, these series have been revised from 1970 onwards.

The new seasonally adjusted figures for each of the three broad engineering sectors and for combined engineering, are shown for home and export markets in addition to combined market totals. The data for earlier years are presented in tables 1 to 4, annually and quarterly from 1970 to 1976. More recent figures are presented as usual as monthly indices in table 5 for combined engineering only. The latest figures shown separately for the three sectors will continue to be published regularly each month in Business Monitor PM 33-36, Engineering (volume indices of sales and orders).

A short note on the revisions to these series follows the commentary on the latest figures up to August 1977. References to fuller accounts are also given. In general, the overall effects of the revisions on the combined engineering series are quite small in recent periods, although more marked for some particular series, especially for earlier years.

Engineering sales and orders up to August: commentary

Provisional trend estimates and seasonally adjusted volume indices of engineering sales and orders up to August show some improvement in the inflow of new home orders, due mainly to industries within the electrical engineering sector. The trend of domestic sales for this sector also showed a small increase and this, together with the continuing slight improvement on the export front, resulted in rising trends for total new orders and sales, while total orders-on-hand remained unchanged.

Following some slackening in the inflow earlier this year, the trend of new domestic orders increased by 5½ per cent during the three months to August. The August intake was unusually high owing to orders received by firms in the electronic capital goods industry, but smaller increases were recorded in both July and August in several other industries in the electrical and mechanical engineering sectors. It is too early to say whether the 2 per cent increase in the trend of home sales represents a resumption of the recovery which commenced last year and died

Table 1 Combined engineering

Volume indices — Seasonally adjusted

	Total			Home			Export		
	1970 average = 100	1970 average monthly sales = 100		1970 average = 100	1970 average monthly sales = 100		1970 average = 100	1970 average monthly sales = 100	
	Orders-on-hand (end of period)	New orders	Sales	Orders-on-hand (end of period)	New orders	Sales	Orders-on-hand (end of period)	New orders	Sales
Ratio: orders-on-hand/av. monthly sales in 1970[1]	6.7			6.3			7.6		
1970	99	100	100	100	100	100	97	101	100
1971	90	94	100	94	96	99	82	90	100
1972	97	104	100	101	107	103	88	96	92
1973	127	128	111	127	129	114	128	128	103
1974	128	115	115	122	110	113	141	128	119
1975	96	93	110	89	89	106	112	103	121
1976	88	100	105	76	92	99	114	122	121
1970									
1st qtr	100	102	100	100	99	100	100	111	100
2nd	101	100	98	100	100	99	101	100	98
3rd	99	98	101	99	99	102	100	96	100
4th	99	101	100	100	102	100	97	97	102
1971									
1st qtr	95	90	99	95	88	99	96	95	100
2nd	91	93	102	91	93	101	92	93	103
3rd	91	99	99	93	102	99	88	89	100
4th	90	96	98	94	100	98	82	84	97
1972									
1st qtr	92	101	96	94	100	99	88	104	90
2nd	92	99	99	94	103	102	87	90	91
3rd	94	103	100	96	109	104	87	88	88
4th	97	113	105	101	118	107	88	103	101
1973									
1st qtr	100	116	108	104	120	112	91	106	98
2nd	107	126	110	110	126	114	101	128	101
3rd	119	138	113	121	138	116	115	138	104
4th	127	133	114	127	130	116	128	140	108
1974									
1st qtr	133	123	111	128	113	111	144	151	109
2nd	135	121	115	128	113	113	152	142	120
3rd	133	112	118	127	115	116	146	105	122
4th	128	104	116	122	100	112	141	113	127
1975									
1st qtr	120	100	118	113	97	115	134	107	125
2nd	112	93	110	105	88	106	128	107	121
3rd	104	91	109	98	90	105	119	94	118
4th	96	87	106	89	81	100	112	104	121
1976									
1st qtr	92	94	104	85	91	98	106	105	120
2nd	87	94	106	81	89	100	102	109	122
3rd	87	106	106	79	98	101	106	128	118
4th	88	106	105	76	92	98	114	144	124

[1] This ratio shows the number of months' work in the order book in the base year at the then average rate of sales.

Table 2 Mechanical engineering

Volume indices — Seasonally adjusted

	Total			Home			Export		
	1970 average = 100	1970 average monthly sales = 100		1970 average = 100	1970 average monthly sales = 100		1970 average = 100	1970 average monthly sales = 100	
	Orders-on-hand (end of period)	New orders	Sales	Orders-on-hand (end of period)	New orders	Sales	Orders-on-hand (end of period)	New orders	Sales
Ratio: orders-on-hand/av. monthly sales in 1970[1]	7.4			7.2			7.8		
1970	98	100	100	99	99	100	97	101	100
1971	81	87	98	84	87	96	74	86	101
1972	82	95	94	84	94	94	78	96	94
1973	121	127	102	118	124	103	129	133	100
1974	120	106	107	112	100	104	139	121	115
1975	84	84	106	79	80	99	96	92	121
1976	70	89	98	64	83	92	85	105	113
1970									
1st qtr	101	102	98	100	97	98	101	113	98
2nd	101	101	98	101	101	99	102	100	98
3rd	99	99	103	100	102	105	99	90	100
4th	98	98	100	99	97	99	97	100	104
1971									
1st qtr	93	85	98	92	80	97	95	96	102
2nd	87	87	101	87	88	99	88	86	105
3rd	84	91	98	86	94	97	80	82	101
4th	81	84	92	84	85	90	74	81	96
1972									
1st qtr	81	91	91	81	84	90	79	107	95
2nd	79	91	94	81	93	95	76	84	92
3rd	80	96	94	82	100	97	76	87	88
4th	82	103	97	84	101	96	78	106	100
1973									
1st qtr	87	111	100	88	111	102	84	111	96
2nd	97	128	101	98	126	102	97	132	97
3rd	112	140	105	111	138	107	113	144	100
4th	121	128	103	118	121	102	129	145	106
1974									
1st qtr	126	115	102	117	100	102	146	151	104
2nd	130	116	108	119	109	105	153	132	114
3rd	126	101	110	117	103	108	146	96	114
4th	120	93	108	112	87	100	139	107	127
1975									
1st qtr	111	89	112	101	81	106	133	107	124
2nd	103	85	106	94	84	100	121	89	120
3rd	94	82	104	87	82	98	108	82	117
4th	84	78	101	79	73	92	96	90	122
1976									
1st qtr	78	85	100	73	78	94	90	101	116
2nd	73	86	100	69	84	94	82	93	114
3rd	71	93	98	67	90	93	80	101	108
4th	70	93	95	64	80	87	85	126	112

[1] This ratio shows the number of months' work in the order book in the base year at the then average rate of sales.

away during the first half of 1977. Domestic order books have yet to show any recovery, and their level is too low to support a sustained increase in output.

The receipt of new orders from abroad has fluctuated quite markedly from month to month, making the trend difficult to assess. It now appears to have resumed the upward path recorded throughout most of 1976, following a brief setback in the early months of this year. The rise in the trend estimate between May and August was around 2 per cent. Export sales, now reflecting the increased receipt of new orders in 1976, rose by 1½ per cent over the same period. The level of export orders-on-hand at the end of August was 1½ per cent above that at the end of May, continuing the improvement which commenced around the middle of 1976.

The combined effect of the movements in the home and export market resulted in an increase of 4 per cent in the trend of total new orders and 2 per cent in total sales over the three months to August. The volume of orders received was on average about the same level as sales in recent months, so the trend of orders-on-hand continued flat, although the seasonally adjusted figures show a slight rise as the inflow of orders in August was well above sales.

The revised figures published in this table are based on the monthly engineering inquiry relating to August 1977. The response rate of 82 per cent to the inquiry for August is judged sufficient to justify publication of provisional indices for this month. Taking into account late returns now received for May, June and July response rates for these months were 94, 92 and 88 per cent respectively.

An expanded commentary, together with additional tables, is given in Business Monitor PM 33–36, Engineering (volume indices of sales and orders), obtainable from HMSO, PO Box 569, London SE1 9NH, post free for a subscription of £3.06 per annum. Separate commentaries and volume indices are given for sales, orders-on-hand and new orders for total, home and export markets, for mechanical, instrument and electrical engineering (SIC orders VII, VIII and IX respectively).

Improvements and revisions to the series

The nature of the underlying problems, and certain of the improvements to the series were described in a short article in *Trade and Industry*, 10 June 1977, and a fuller account was published in the May 1977 edition of *Economic Trends*. These articles dealt mainly with the engineering components of the index of production, but as these are based on the same monthly inquiry information as the sales and orders series, the comments made there are applicable, especially to the indices of total sales. A more detailed and technical description bringing out fully the improvements in the data and the implications of the methodological changes for the indices of orders-on-hand and new orders series, as well as for the home and export sub-divisions, will be published later in a Study in Official statistics, no. 32. It is hoped also to make available in this volume the historical series for each of the 36 industries within engineering.

One departure from the previous methodology concerns the base level of the orders-on-hand series. Formerly, the index numbers of orders-on-hand were expressed as a percentage of their value at the end of 1970. All monthly, quarterly and annual indices for orders-on-hand continue to show the relative levels of order books at the end of the period in

Table 3 Instrument engineering

Volume indices — Seasonally adjusted

	Total			Home			Export		
	1970 average = 100	1970 average monthly sales = 100		1970 average = 100	1970 average monthly sales = 100		1970 average = 100	1970 average monthly sales = 100	
	Orders-on-hand (end of period)	New orders	Sales	Orders-on-hand (end of period)	New orders	Sales	Orders-on-hand (end of period)	New orders	Sales
Ratio: orders-on-hand/av. monthly sales in 1970 [1]	5.1			5.8			3.7		
1970	100	104	100	103	105	100	91	101	100
1971	96	101	103	92	97	103	111	110	104
1972	102	104	102	95	107	105	124	99	96
1973	126	121	110	114	120	110	161	122	111
1974	138	124	118	121	119	116	188	132	124
1975	113	108	119	93	106	119	173	113	118
1976	106	110	113	93	113	113	143	105	114
1970									
1st qtr	98	112	101	97	113	104	101	110	95
2nd	102	102	96	102	103	94	100	100	101
3rd	101	100	101	100	100	103	104	100	96
4th	100	101	102	103	105	99	91	93	108
1971									
1st qtr	97	99	105	98	97	107	94	103	100
2nd	95	101	104	94	95	103	98	112	107
3rd	95	101	102	92	95	100	106	114	104
4th	96	104	101	92	100	100	111	111	104
1972									
1st qtr	94	97	101	89	100	105	111	92	93
2nd	98	107	100	93	114	105	114	94	91
3rd	100	107	104	95	110	107	117	103	98
4th	102	106	102	95	104	103	124	108	100
1973									
1st qtr	102	110	109	95	115	115	126	102	99
2nd	108	117	107	99	116	108	136	119	107
3rd	116	126	111	106	124	110	147	128	113
4th	126	130	114	114	124	109	161	140	123
1974									
1st qtr	138	136	115	123	132	114	182	142	116
2nd	140	123	118	126	120	114	184	129	125
3rd	140	118	119	124	113	118	189	129	122
4th	138	117	121	121	110	116	188	130	132
1975									
1st qtr	131	117	129	115	120	132	178	109	123
2nd	125	109	119	113	114	119	163	100	120
3rd	119	106	116	103	96	115	168	125	117
4th	113	101	111	93	93	111	173	117	110
1976									
1st qtr	113	112	111	102	129	112	147	77	108
2nd	110	109	115	100	112	117	140	102	110
3rd	108	107	110	96	102	109	145	118	112
4th	106	114	118	93	109	113	143	124	126

[1] This ratio shows the number of months' work in the order book in the base year at the then average rate of sales.

Table 4 Electrical engineering

Volume indices — Seasonally adjusted

	Total			Home			Export		
	1970 average = 100	1970 average monthly sales = 100		1970 average = 100	1970 average monthly sales = 100		1970 average = 100	1970 average monthly sales = 100	
	Orders-on-hand (end of period)	New orders	Sales	Orders-on-hand (end of period)	New orders	Sales	Orders-on-hand (end of period)	New orders	Sales
Ratio: orders-on-hand/av. monthly sales in 1970 [1]	6.0			5.4			8.2		
1970	101	100	100	102	100	100	99	101	100
1971	104	103	102	110	106	103	92	92	97
1972	120	116	108	129	122	114	101	95	90
1973	137	132	124	144	135	128	121	121	106
1974	138	126	125	138	122	125	137	138	127
1975	112	103	115	104	98	113	132	119	123
1976	113	113	113	93	101	106	159	154	137
1970									
1st qtr	100	100	102	100	98	102	99	108	103
2nd	100	98	99	100	98	99	100	100	96
3rd	99	97	99	98	95	98	100	104	102
4th	101	104	100	102	108	101	99	93	98
1971									
1st qtr	99	95	99	100	96	100	97	91	98
2nd	97	99	102	97	99	103	98	101	98
3rd	102	109	101	104	113	101	97	96	98
4th	104	110	105	110	118	108	92	82	95
1972									
1st qtr	110	115	103	115	119	109	100	101	81
2nd	112	110	106	117	113	111	103	98	89
3rd	114	111	107	120	119	113	102	86	87
4th	120	128	116	129	137	121	101	97	101
1973									
1st qtr	122	124	119	133	132	124	100	98	102
2nd	123	126	124	132	127	129	105	123	107
3rd	131	138	123	139	140	127	113	131	109
4th	137	140	128	144	142	133	121	131	108
1974									
1st qtr	142	132	122	146	126	123	135	154	117
2nd	144	128	124	142	117	123	147	163	128
3rd	143	127	128	144	130	127	140	115	135
4th	138	116	126	138	115	126	137	119	127
1975									
1st qtr	132	112	124	133	114	122	129	105	127
2nd	126	101	113	122	90	110	135	139	123
3rd	120	102	114	114	100	112	131	107	119
4th	112	97	111	104	89	108	132	124	122
1976									
1st qtr	111	104	107	103	100	101	129	120	129
2nd	106	103	112	97	92	104	128	140	141
3rd	111	124	115	96	108	109	144	178	136
4th	113	122	117	93	105	110	159	181	142

[1] This ratio shows the number of months' work in the order book in the base year at the then average rate of sales.

Table 5 Volume index numbers for the combined engineering industries up to August

	Total			Home			Export		
	1970 average = 100	1970 average monthly sales = 100		1970 average = 100	1970 average monthly sales = 100		1970 average = 100	1970 average monthly sales = 100	
	Orders-on-hand (end of period)	New orders	Sales	Orders-on-hand (end of period)	New orders	Sales	Orders-on-hand (end of period)	New orders	Sales
Ratio: orders-on-hand/av. monthly sales in 1970 [1]	6.7			6.3			7.6		
Trend estimates									
1975									
July	109	91	109	102	88	105	125	99	119
August	106	90	108	99	87	105	122	96	118
September	104	89	108	96	87	104	120	96	118
October	101	90	107	94	86	103	117	98	118
November	98	90	106	91	86	101	115	102	119
December	96	91	105	89	86	99	113	105	121
1976 p									
January	95	92	104	88	87	98	110	106	122
February	93	93	104	86	88	97	108	105	122
March	91	93	104	85	89	98	106	106	122
April	90	94	104	83	89	98	104	108	122
May	89	96	105	82	89	99	103	112	121
June	88	98	105	81	91	100	103	119	120
July	87	102	105	80	93	100	104	125	118
August	87	105	105	79	95	101	106	131	118
September	87	107	106	78	97	101	108	135	119
October	88	108	106	77	98	101	110	138	120
November	88	109	107	77	99	101	112	138	122
December	88	110	107	77	100	100	114	136	124
1977 p									
January	89	110	106	77	101	100	115	134	124
February	89	108	106	77	100	99	116	131	124
March	90	107	105	77	99	98	117	129	125
April	90	106	105	77	96	98	117	130	126
May	90	105	105	77	95	97	118	132	127
June	89	106	106	76	95	98	118	134	128
July	89	107	106	76	97	98	119	134	128
August	89	110	107	76	100	100	120	135	129
Percentage change [2] May-August 1977	—	+4.0	+2.0	−1.5	+5.5	+2.0	+1.5	+2.0	+1.5
Seasonally adjusted									
1970	99	100	100	100	100	100	97	101	100
1971	90	94	100	94	96	99	82	90	100
1972	97	104	100	101	107	103	88	96	92
1973	127	128	111	127	129	114	128	128	103
1974	128	115	115	122	110	113	141	128	119
1975	96	93	110	89	89	106	112	103	121
1976 p	88	100	105	76	92	99	114	122	121
1976 p									
1st qtr	92	94	104	85	91	98	106	105	120
2nd	87	94	106	81	89	100	102	109	122
3rd	87	106	106	79	98	101	106	128	118
4th	88	106	105	76	92	98	114	144	124
1977 p									
1st qtr	90	111	107	78	105	101	116	128	122
2nd	89	104	106	76	93	97	118	134	129
1976 p									
January	95	101	108	87	92	103	113	125	120
February	94	93	104	87	96	99	109	86	118
March	92	89	99	85	84	91	106	103	120
April	90	97	108	84	95	102	104	102	124
May	88	92	109	82	84	102	102	115	129
June	87	95	100	81	88	95	102	111	114
July	87	104	105	78	85	99	107	157	119
August	88	110	106	79	108	103	107	116	114
September	87	104	106	79	101	101	106	112	120
October	88	111	109	78	96	106	110	150	117
November	88	109	104	77	92	97	114	156	122
December	88	99	102	76	89	92	114	126	131
1977 p									
January	89	121	112	77	111	107	116	147	126
February	90	112	108	78	111	104	116	114	120
March	90	100	100	78	92	93	116	124	120
April	90	109	107	78	101	100	116	128	128
May	90	103	102	77	88	93	118	143	127
June	89	102	108	76	91	98	118	130	133
July	88	105	109	74	90	101	120	144	131
August	90	119	107	77	118	101	120	122	122
Mar-May 1977 (av.)	90	104	103	77	94	95	118	132	125
Jun-Aug 1977 (av.)	90	108	108	77	100	100	120	132	128
Percentage change [2]	+0.5	+4.5	+4.5	—	+6.5	+5.0	+1.0	+0.5	+3.0

Do you use statistics?

The Government Statistical Service (GSS) prepares a wide range of reliable and detailed figures on the United Kingdom. It is usually worth checking to see if what you want is available from them. You can see many government statistical publications at your local public library, buy them from HMSO, or refer to the comprehensive collection held at the Statistics and Market Intelligence Library, Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4N 7HU (tel. 01-248 5757 ext. 368).

question but the numerical base for each series is now taken to be the average level of orders-on-hand in 1970, rather than the end of year level. Indices of sales and new orders continue to be shown on a common numerical basis, with the average rate of sales (actually deliveries of complete engineering products) in 1970 as 100 for new orders as well as for sales. This arrangement facilitates direct comparison between the most recent inflow of orders and the latest indices of sales (or completions) as measures of current activity.

As a further aid to interpretation of the indices, the ratio of the average level of orders-on-hand to sales in 1970 is shown at the head of each orders-on-hand column. This provides an estimate of the number of months' work held in the order book during 1970 at the 1970 rate of production. The length of more recent order books in terms of months' work in hand may be readily derived by multiplying the 1970 average length of order books by the latest index of orders-on-hand and dividing by the corresponding recent average index of sales.

Effects of the revisions

The details of the changes on the series have in effect already been published for total sales and a fuller account will be published, as quoted above. For combined engineering the changes are quite small in recent periods; in most cases, the movement of each series is little affected even though there have been moderate changes in the levels for some of the indices. The revisions are more marked for earlier years and for certain component series (especially for instrument engineering, where some reclassification of firms has taken place). In particular, the location of the previous peak of the cycle for total sales has been changed from the last quarter of 1973 to about the third quarter of 1974. This is because inaccuracies in the method of price deflation had previously caused the volume of sales to be underestimated, and the degree of underestimation was greatest in 1974 and 1975 when the rate of change of prices was very rapid.

Inquiries: Department of Industry, Room 618, Dean Bradley House, 52 Horseferry Road, London SW1P 2AG, tel. 01-212 6044.

Notes to table 5

[1] This ratio shows the number of months' work in the order book in the base year at the then average rate of sales. [2] For orders-on-hand, the percentage changes compare the level at the end of the latest period shown with the corresponding level for the earlier period. The percentage changes have been based on the unrounded values and are given to the nearest half percentage point. p Provisional.

Cotton industry: production in September

Statistics issued by the Textile Statistics Bureau show that in January-September 1977 the amount of cloth woven was at the same level as in January-September 1976. Production of single yarn decreased by 2 per cent and doubled yarn increased by 4 per cent.
Inquiries: 01-212 0017 or 01-212 6474.

Production in the cotton industry

Annual totals and weekly averages

	Single yarn [1]		Double yarn		Woven cloth	
	Cotton yarn [2]	Spun man-made yarns and mixture yarn, inc. waste	Cotton yarn	Other	Cotton	Man-made fibre and mixtures
	million kg				million m	
1968	171.2	67.5	49.9	52.0	668.2	507.3
1969	166.2	73.2	46.8	60.9	661.5	538.1
1970	158.7	77.4	43.2	57 3	627.6	484.3
1971	133.0	83.3		85.0	559.1	479.8
1972	121.4	81.7		75 4	513 0	469.8
1973	115.4	92.5		82.1	453.2	502.3
1974	101.3	87.7		74.7	409.5	505.3
1975	94.4	76.4		68.4	405.4	503.0
1976	106.9	76.1		69.4	374.5	492.9
1976						
Jan	2.3	1.5		1.4	8.6	11.0
Feb	2.2	1.4		1.4	8.3	10.8
Mar [3]	2.3	1.5		1.4	8.3	10.5
Apr	1.9	1.4		1.2	6.6	8.7
May	2.4	1.7		1.5	8.0	10.5
Jun [3]	1.7	1.3		1.1	7.0	8.7
Jul	1.8	1.3		1.2	4.3	6.8
Aug	2.1	1.6		1.4	7.3	9.0
Sep [3]	1.8	1.3		1.2	6.4	8.7
Oct	2 3	1.7		1.6	7.9	10.6
Nov	2.4	1.7		1.6	7.9	10.7
Dec [3]	1.7	1.3		1.1	6.0	8.2
1977						
Jan	2.2	1.7		1.5	7.7	10.3
Feb	2.3	1.7		1.6	7.9	10.7
Mar [3]	2.2	1.8		1.6	7.9	10.7
Apr	1.7	1.4		1.2	6.3	8.8
May	2.3	1.9		1.6	7.9	11.1
June [3]	1.5	1.2		1.1	6.9	8.8
July	1.6	1.2		1.2	4.3	7.5
August [3]	1.9	1.5		1.4	7.6	9.5
Sep	1.5	1.2		1.2	6.3	9.0

[1] Spun in cotton industry. [2] Including yarns wholly of cotton waste and mixture yarn of cotton and cotton waste. [3] Average of five weeks.

Carpet industry sales in August

The daily rate of carpet manufacturers' sales by value in August 1977 at current prices was provisionally estimated to have been 5 per cent more than in August 1976 assuming 22 working days in August 1977, and 21 working days in August 1976. In the three months ended August 1977 the daily rate of manufacturers' sales was provisionally estimated to have been 12 per cent more than in the corresponding period 12 months ago, assuming 63 working days in the period ended August 1977 and 65 working days in the period ended August 1976. The index numbers, which are of manufacturers' sales by value, have been adjusted for the length of the working month, but not for non-statutory holidays or other seasonal factors. The wholesale price index of carpets is shown as a guide to the movement in prices.
Inquiries: 01-212 0017.

Index of carpet manufacturers' sales

1970 = 100

	Index of manufacturers' sales at current prices	Wholesale price index
1969	93	96.6
1970	100	100.0
1971	115	104.9
1972	135	111.7
1973	166	130.2
1974	179	153.1
1975	202	177.8
1976	234	211.3
1976		
2nd qtr	224	206.6
3rd	210	214.5
4th	283	224.0
1977		
1st qtr	260	239.3
2nd	239	249.6
1976		
May	234	208.2
June	214	209.6
July	175	210.7
August	193	214.5
1977		
May	227	250.3
June	241	250.4
July	208	250.9
August	202	251.9

p Provisional

New companies registered in Northern Ireland in October

The number of new companies registered in Northern Ireland in October and the total nominal capital are as follows:

	October 1977	January to October 1977	October 1976
Public companies limited by shares	—	—	—
Private companies limited by shares	44	600	40
Private unlimited companies	—	—	—
Public companies limited by guarantee not having a share capital	—	7	—
Private companies limited by guarantee not having a share capital	—	2	—
Private companies limited by guarantee having a share capital	—	—	—
Total nominal capital of companies incorporated	£1 900 500	£25 050 904	£1 613 000

Inquiries: Belfast 34121.

Average earnings in September and basic rates of wages in October

Indices of average earnings

Average earnings of employees in all industries and services in Great Britain are estimated to have risen by about 7.5 per cent between September 1976 and September 1977. This estimate is based on the new series of monthly index numbers of average earnings for the whole economy which was introduced from January 1976. Over this 12-month period, average earnings in production and other industries covered by the older series, introduced from January 1963, increased by about 8.8 per cent. The figures for recent months are:

New series (whole economy) Not seasonally adjusted

	Index Jan 1976 = 100	Percentage increase over previous 12 months
1977		
April	113.1	9.4
May	114.9	9.0
June	115.4	8.2
July	116.2	8.1
August	115.7	7.3
September p	116.5	7.5

p Provisional.

Older series (production industries and some services)

	Seasonally adjusted			Un-adjusted index: January 1970 = 100
	Index: January 1970 = 100	Percentage increase Over previous month	Over previous 12 months	
1977				
April	283.1	−0.3	11.0	284.0
May	286.2	1.1	10.2	288.9
June	286.2	0.0	9.6	288.9
July	286.5	0.1	8.9	290.8
August	288.7	0.7	8.0	287.3
September p	289.5	0.3	8.8	291.8

p Provisional.

Indices of basic rates of wages

At the end of October 1977, nationally-negotiated basic weekly rates of wages of manual workers were on average 4.7 per cent higher than a year earlier. During October, the index of basic weekly rates increased only slightly, from 228.4 to 228.5. The figures for recent months are:

	Indices, 31 July 1972 = 100		Percentage increases over previous 12 months	
	Basic weekly rates	Basic hourly rates	Basic weekly rates	Basic hourly rates
1977				
31 May	225.5	226.8	7.1	7.1
30 June	227.3	228.7	5.6	5.6
31 July	228.1	229.5	4.8	4.8
31 August	228.2	229.6	4.8	4.8
30 September	228.4	229.8	4.8	4.8
31 October	228.5	229.8	4.7	4.7

The indices only take account of changes in nationally-negotiated rates. The year-on-year increases consequently reflect that there have been no changes in such rates for engineering workers since February 1976.
Inquiries: Watford 28500 ext. 651.

Business Monitors

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PQ 341.5 Industrial (including process) plant and steelwork for second quarter 1977
PQ 362 Insulated wires and cables for third quarter 1977
PQ 363 Telegraph and telephone apparatus and equipment for second quarter 1977
PQ 364 Radio and electronic components for second quarter 1977
PQ 367 Radio, radar and electronic capital goods for second quarter 1977
PQ 381.2 Trailers, caravans and freight containers for second quarter 1977
PQ 383 Aerospace products for second quarter 1977
PQ 443 Women's and girls' tailored outerwear for second quarter 1977
PQ 461.2 Clay building bricks and other non-refactory goods for second quarter 1977
PQ 462 Pottery for third quarter 1977
PQ 469.1 Abrasives for third quarter 1977
PQ 469.2 Miscellaneous building materials and mineral products for second quarter 1977
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Correction

The entry in *Trade and Industry* on 11 November 1977 which read: PQ 341.1 – Industrial (including process) plant and steelwork, should have read: PQ 341.4 – Constructional steelwork for first and second quarters 1977.

PQ 341.1 has from first quarter 1977 split in two monitors:

PQ 341.4 – Constructional steelwork.

PQ 341.5 – Industrial (including process) plant and fabricated steelwork. The first issues of which (for the first quarter 1977) was published in October.

Business Monitors in the production series and miscellaneous series, and certain monitors (nos. SD 1 and SD 6) in the service and distributive series, are available by annual subscriptions from Her Majesty's Stationery Office, PO Box 569, London SE1 9NH.

Registrations of British, community and foreign films

The following are details of films registered by the Department of Trade under the Films Acts 1960 to 1970, as amended by the European Communities Act 1972, during the week ended Friday, 25 November 1977.

BR/E indicates that the film is a British quota film, EC that the film is a quota film. The date which forms part of the registration number of each is the date on which quota life of the film expires.

Title of film	Registered no.	Playing time minutes	Date of registration	Registered in the name of	Maker's name
BRITISH					
Movietone News 2529	BR/E 39196/27/11/82	8	25 November	British Movietonews Ltd	British Movietonews Ltd
FOREIGN					
My Nights With Susan, Sandra, Olga And Julie	F 39372	85	22 November	Marron Films Ltd	Scorpio Films, Amsterdam
Welcome To LA	F 39373	104	24 November	Lagoon Associates Productions Ltd	Lions Gate Films, California

AMENDMENTS TO THE REGISTER

The title of the film 'Would You Kill a Child' F 39135 registered on 20 May 1977 has been amended to 'Death is Child's Play', the playing time to 100 minutes and the renter distributing the film in Great Britain to Tigon Film Distributors Ltd.
The registration number of the film 'Soccer Games' registered on 10 October 1977 has been amended to EC 39335/16/10/82 and the maker to Joachim Kreck, Wiesbaden.
The registration number of the film 'The Female Scent' (Profumo di Donna) registered on 11 November 1977 has been amended to EC 39368/13/11/82 and the maker to Dean Film, Italy.
The registration number of the film 'What a Performer' registered on 26 October 1977 has been amended to EC 39348/30/10/82 and the maker to Cinema Plus, Sedimo and Alexia, Paris.

Index to statistics published regularly in 'Trade and Industry'

(a) annually (m) monthly (q) quarterly

Air transport: trade by air (a) 1 Jul 77
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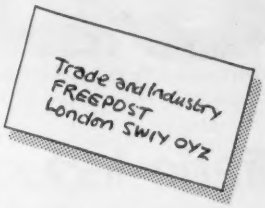

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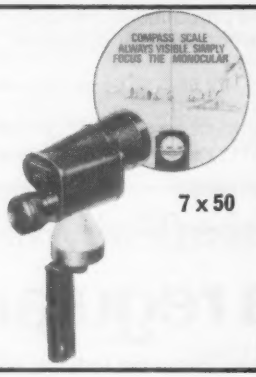

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HELP FOR EXPORTERS

Conferences, Seminars and Meetings

GENERAL

Jan. 18 Understanding foreign exchange — a half-day seminar directed to practical considerations.

THE AMERICAS AND CARIBBEAN

Jan. 19 Repeat seminar — "The Anatomy of Product Liability Insurance". N.B. First edition, published papers now available: £20 plus £2 p. & p.

Feb. 8 Evening reception for US Ambassador Kingman Brewster.

AFRICA AND MIDDLE EAST

Jan. 6 Morocco — report-back meeting following mission.

Jan. 11 "Finance and Payments in the Oil-Rich Arab States of the Gulf" — half-day business forum.

Jan. 16 Middle East Orientation Course — covering the history, culture and customs of the Arab World, and 200 useful words. (4 days).

Feb. 8 "Social Service and Infrastructural Developments in Oil-Rich States" — residential course at Farnham Castle. (3 days).

EASTERN EUROPE

Dec. 14 Conference on trade with U.S.S.R. with noted British and Soviet speakers.

ASIA AND PACIFIC

Dec. 14 South East Asia Business Club — quarterly meeting. (Membership open to those involved in ASEAN trade and investment).

Jan. 12 Philippines/Singapore — report-back meeting following mission.

WESTERN EUROPE

Dec. 15 Israel — report-back meeting following mission.

Jan. 17 "Productivity — the way to a higher standard of living" — a one-day conference with senior management, union and academic speakers. Granada TV documentary films presented by Mike Scott.

Jan. 27 "Portuguese Export Workshop" — a half-day conference to examine trade opportunities.

Feb. 28 How the International Division can help you in Europe — half-day conference.

1978 MISSIONS WITH BOTB SUPPORT GRANTS (CLOSING DATES DEC-FEB)

Mar. 3 Thailand (7 days)
Scatter mission — one week in Bangkok, one week free for travel.

Mar. 3 United Arab Emirates (10 days)
For engineers, suppliers of consumer durables and hospital equipment, and those interested in joint ventures.

Mar. 4 South Africa (15 days)
Bi-annual general trade mission.

Mar. 31 New Zealand/Australia (23 days)
Bi-annual general trade mission.

Apr. 6 Argentina/Uruguay/Paraguay (15 days)
High-level mission for suppliers of capital goods, financial and consultancy services.

Apr. 17 Scatter-type trade mission to USA (10 days); starting point Boston, Mass.

Apr. 30 Egypt/Lebanon (12 days)
General industrial mission, in Egypt to exploit new 'open-door' policy.

These activities cover the period December-February. An extended list is featured in the Chamber's International Diary available on request. Application forms, or further information, can be obtained through Beth Tweedale at the address ABOVE, or by telephoning 01-248 4444 ext. 320.

1978 EXHIBITIONS (PROPOSED) WITH BOTB SUPPORT GRANTS

July. 4 Equipment and Machinery for Food Industry, Trade and Public Catering Establishments.
Moscow — 14 days

Sep. 10 Fire Chiefs Conference and Exhibition
Cincinnati — 5 days

Sep. 11 Electra-Mining
Johannesburg — 5 days

Sep. 11 Security 78
Essen — 5 days

Oct. 17 Transport '78
Munich — 5 days

Oct. 30 Machevo/Milieu
Utrecht — 6 days

Nov. 14 Southern Plant Engineering and Maintenance
Houston — 3 days

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